Senate Finance and Public Administration Standing Committee ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES HEARINGS

PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET PORTFOLIO

Department/Agency: Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government

Outcome: 1

Topic: Departmental savings **Senator:** MACDONALD

Question reference number: 35

Type of question: Written, Tuesday 19 October 2010

Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 3 December 2010

Have any savings of existing resources within either the Department or PM & C been made to offset the cost of the change? (Senator MacDonald is referring to the creation of this Department)

Number of pages: 1

Answer:

The Department of Regional Australia, Regional Development and Local Government was established on 14 September 2010. Resources and staff associated with existing functions were transferred from the Department of Infrastructure and Transport and the Attorney-General's Department on 1 October 2010. The funding transferred to the department has been discounted by the efficiency dividend.

Any additional resources required to support the delivery of the Government's agenda for Regional Australia will be considered in the Budget context.