

## **QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

### **ADDITIONAL BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 9 FEBRUARY 2010**

#### **IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO**

#### **(31) Program 2.1: Refugee and Humanitarian Assistance**

Senator Humphries (L&CA 74) asked:

In relation to Christmas Island, how many people have had their claims refused and how many have been sent elsewhere as a result of their claims being refused?

*Answer:*

In the period 1 July 2009 to 31 January 2010, 110 people had a negative refugee status assessment.

As at 20 May 2010, of these people:

- 62 people have departed Australia;
- Two people have remained in Australia in AFP custody on Criminal Justice Stay visas;
- 22 people have been found to be refugees in the independent merits review process and have been granted protection visas or are undergoing further processing;
- One person has an independent merits review in progress;
- 23 have been found not to be refugees under the independent merits review process and are now subject to removal processes, subject to litigation and other barriers to removal.