

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 27-28 May 2013**

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

**(BE13/0440) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Cash (Written) asked:

What were the reasons behind the site selection for the permanent facilities at Nauru selected?

*Answer:*

The primary reasons for land selection for permanent facilities on Nauru were governed by what land was made available by the Government of Nauru.

Beyond that, a number of factors are taken into account in the selection: land that has been or can be easily rehabilitated after phosphate mining, the size of the available site, any possible landowner issues and endorsement of the Government of Nauru.

Suitable available land on Nauru is limited.