

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 OCTOBER 2010

IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP PORTFOLIO

(81) Program 4.2: Onshore Detention Network

Senator Cash (L&CA 78) asked:

When did the government commence undertaking works to expand the centre to accommodate 1200 people?

Land clearing, installation of ground services- the very first time someone went to that site and undertook some work. If that constitutes putting a shovel in turning one sod over, then I would like to know what that particular date was

Answer:

Following the appropriation in the May 2010 Budget, the former Minister announced on 18 April 2010 that work would commence immediately to have the Curtin facility readied and upgraded as an immigration detention centre.

Land clearing began on 21 May 2010 when a contractor started removing vegetation from the site and establishing fire breaks. The clearing covered areas encompassing Stage 2 and Stage 3.