

**QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE**

**SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013**

**IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO**

**(SE13/0140) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management**

Senator Rhiannon (Written) asked:

How is water supplied to the OPC on Nauru? a. What has been the cost of this?

*Answer:*

There are two primary sources of water to the OPCs on Nauru, water produced on the island through Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (ROWPUs), and bottled water.

The departmental ROWPU was purchased at a cost of \$1 117 052 (ex GST) for supply and installation and approximately \$22 000 (ex GST) per month in operational costs.

A second leased ROWPU cost \$397 250 (ex GST) for the initial mobilisation and commissioning, \$132 656 (ex GST) per month in leasing charges and approximately \$18 000 (ex GST) per month in operational costs. Operational costs i.e. fuel, and maintenance, vary slightly on a month to month basis depending on production and the price of fuel.

Bottled water is supplied to the island by Transfield Services, the OPC's contracted service provider for garrison support and costs approximately \$314 600 (ex GST) per month. Bottled water is purchased from a Nauruan company, Rainbow Enterprises and is predominantly used for personal consumption and cooking.