

QUESTION TAKEN ON NOTICE

SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING: 19 November 2013

IMMIGRATION AND BORDER PROTECTION PORTFOLIO

(SE13/0141) PROGRAM – 4.3: Offshore Asylum Seeker Management

Senator Rhiannon (Written) asked:

How is water supplied to the OPC on Manus? What has been the cost of this?

Answer:

There are three primary sources of water to the Manus OPC. Sea water is harvested and desalinated by Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Units (units), rain water is collected and bottled water produced from Port Moresby, PNG.

The units have been procured at a cost of \$6 030 380 (ex GST).

Two water tanks were purchased at a cost of \$91 539 (ex GST) and 14 rainwater tanks at a cost of \$104 099 (ex GST).

Bottled water is supplied to the island by G4S, the OPC's contracted service provider for garrison support and costs approximately \$384 200 (ex GST) per month. Bottled water is purchased from a company in Port Moresby, BNG International and is predominantly used for personal consumption and cooking.