

Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee
Answers to questions on notice
Environment portfolio

Question No: 140

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Corporate

Programme: Corporate Strategies Division

Topic: Portfolio Wide – Staffing Reductions

Hansard Page: N/A

Question Date: 27 November 2013

Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from 7 September 2013 to date? What was the reason for these reductions?

b) Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.

c) Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.

d) If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.

e) Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

Department of the Environment¹

There were two voluntary redundancies between 7 September 2013 and 31 October 2013. The redundancies were due to operational requirements.

b) No

c) Yes. The Department is currently conducting a voluntary redundancy programme with a target of 150 voluntary redundancies. Some services/programmes may be reduced.

d) The staff reductions were required to meet the Department's budget for the 2014/15 financial year.

e) There are no plans for involuntary redundancies at present.

¹ Includes information for the Director of National Parks

Bureau of Meteorology

No staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred from 7 September 2013 to date

b) Not applicable

c) There are no further reductions planned.

d) Not applicable

- e) There are no further reductions planned.

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

Nil

- b) n/a
- c) The Agency is considering running a small voluntary redundancy programme early in 2014. There is no anticipated reduction in services.
- d) The reduction in staffing numbers is planned to recover costs associated with the government efficiency dividend.
- e) No

Murray Darling Basin Authority

There were two voluntary redundancies within the MDBA during the period 7 September to 31 October 2013 to implement agency efficiencies.

- b) No
- c) There were no planned reductions as at 31 October 2013.
- d) N/A
- e) No

National Water Commission

Nil

- b) Not applicable
- c) No
- d) Not applicable
- e) No

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

Nil

- b) Not applicable.
- c) 1 redundancy; no reduction target; no services cut
- d) Position is no longer required due to changing business operations
- e) No

Clean Energy Regulator

Two voluntary redundancies have occurred from 7 September 2013 to 31 October 2013. These voluntary redundancies were as a result of the restructuring of the Clean Energy Regulator,

following the transition of our Delivery Division from a building phase to business as usual state.

b) No

c) The Clean Energy Regulator has no current plans to reduce overall staffing numbers or conduct voluntary redundancy programmes. However, the Clean Energy Regulator is continuing to manage the process of transitioning general project based positions into our base staffing and a few targeted voluntary redundancies may result from this process.

d) N/A

e) No

Climate Change Authority

There were no staff reductions or voluntary redundancies for the period 7 September 2013 to 31 October 2013.

b) Not applicable

c) There are no current plans for staff reductions or voluntary redundancies.

d) Not applicable

e) There are no current plans for involuntary redundancies.