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

Question No: 174

Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates

Outcome: Corporate

Programme: Policy and Communications Division

Topic: Portfolio Wide – Reviews

Hansard Page: N/A

Question Date: 27 November 2013

Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

Since 7 September 2013, how many new Reviews have been commenced? Please list them including:

- a) the date they were ordered
- b) the date they commenced
- c) the minister responsible
- d) the department responsible
- e) the nature of the review
- f) their terms of reference
- g) the scope of the review
- h) Whom is conducting the review
- i) the number of officers, and their classification level, involved in conducting the review
- j) the expected report date
- k) If the report will be tabled in parliament or made public

Answer:

One

Probity review into allegations of conflict of interest made against two members of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority on the ABC 730 Report.

- a) 29 October 2013
- b) 3 December 2013
- c) The Minister for the Environment
- d) Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
- Probity review into allegations of conflict of interest made against two members of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority on the ABC 730 Report broadcast on Tuesday 29 October 2013.
- Review the past and current material personal interest disclosures made by
 Mr Tony Mooney and Mr Jon Grayson to Minister and the Authority, having regard to

requirements under the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975* and the obligations of a member of the Authority.

Review all relevant and related GBRMPA material, documents and other information. Review circumstances where there is potential for a perceived or actual conflict of interest, to have been present during the two members' tenure as members of the Authority, particularly in relation to:

- decisions made during meetings of the Authority; and
- the issues raised in the programme, including the Authority's consideration of the Ports Position Statement and any non-disclosure of material personal interests identified, and
- links to the Obeid family.

Identify appropriate people to interview for the purposes of properly conducting this inquiry.

Provide a written report to the Chairman of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and the General Manager, Strategic Policy and Reef Stewardship and copied to the Secretary of the Department of the Environment with your conclusions and any recommendations for further action.

- g) Scope: The review relates to allegations made against two members of the Authority named in the ABC 730 Report broadcast on Tuesday 29 October 2013.
- h) Mr Robert Cornell AO
- i) This is an external review
- j) 31 January 2014
- k) Made public