

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio

Budget Estimates

28 May 2012

**Question:** BR63  
**Topic:** Electricity Purchasing  
**Proof Hansard Page:** Written

**Senator Bushby asked:**

1. Provide an update of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement. Provide details of when this was entered into and the length of the agreement.
2. What were the department/agency electricity costs for 2009-10 and 2010-11?
3. What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date?

**Answer:**

***Department***

1. Canberra – The Department receives its electricity under the Whole of Government (ACT) Electricity Contract through ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd. The agreement is for the period 01 July 2011 to 30 June 2015. In addition, there are a number of small electricity accounts with ActewAGL. These were too small to include in the Whole of Government arrangements.

Melbourne – An agreement was entered into with TRUenergy for the period January 2012 to October 2013.

Perth – The Department has not entered into any direct contracts for the supply of electricity for its occupied space in Perth. The electricity connection is managed by the sub-leased tenant, the National Offshore Petroleum Safety and Environmental Management Authority (NOPSEMA). The Department reimburses NOPSEMA for the electricity used.

2. The Department made the following payments :

**2010-11:** \$11,508.22 (GST exclusive)

**2009-10:** \$3,286.00 (GST exclusive)

The Department's primary location during this time was Industry House, 10 Binara Street, Canberra. The lease arrangements were an all-inclusive fee (electricity was not separately identified).

3. The Department's electricity costs for the 2011-12 financial year was \$99,234.74 (GST exclusive).

***Tourism Australia***

1. Tourism Australia (TA) does not have an electricity purchasing agreement for its head office in Sydney as electricity costs are incorporated into the office lease.

TA's international electricity costs are as follows:

<b>Location</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>2011-12</b>
Frankfurt	Mainova AG	\$4,127
Hong Kong	Hong Kong Electric Co Ltd	\$5,850
India	Best	\$4,367
Japan	Mori Trust Co Ltd	\$11,315
Korea	Youngpoong Co	\$614
Malaysia	Tenaga Nasional Berhad	\$1,611
New Zealand	Mercury Energy	\$5,574
Singapore	UOL Property Investments P/L	\$10,500

- 2-3. Because TA's electricity costs are incorporated into the office lease, a breakdown can not be provided for the 2009-10, 2010-11 or 2011-12 financial years.

### ***Geoscience Australia***

1. The supply of Electricity to Whole of Government (ACT) 1 July 2011 – 30 June 2015 with ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd.
- 2-3. Geoscience Australia's electricity costs for each financial year:

<b>Financial Year</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Cost (GST exclusive)</b>
<b>2011-12</b>	ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd	\$793,599
<b>2010-11</b>	ActewAGL	\$944,752
<b>2009-10</b>	ActewAGL	\$839,974