

Senate Community Affairs Committee
ANSWERS TO ESTIMATES QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
FAMILIES, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SERVICES AND
INDIGENOUS AFFAIRS PORTFOLIO
2012-13 Supplementary Estimates Hearings

Outcome Number: 7

Question No: 235

Topic: Remote Housing

Hansard Page: Written

Senator Siewert asked:

In the answers to Question on Notice to Question number 294 of the 2012-13 Budget Estimates Hearing, it was stated that ‘The Northern Territory Government advise that all houses constructed under SIHIP in Gunbalyunya are connected to the town water supply and are ready for occupancy’. When were these houses occupied? As at 17 October 2012, some of the houses in Gunbalyunya constructed under SIHIP or NPARIA remained unoccupied. When were these houses reported as being completed?

Answer:

The Northern Territory Department of Housing advised that all 62 new houses in Gunbalanya were completed, including connections to power, water and sewer services prior to 29 June 2012. Individual completion dates vary due to the completed houses being handed over to the Northern Territory Department of Housing in batches. As at 17 October 2012, the Northern Territory Government advised two out of the 62 new houses were not occupied as the families to which the houses were originally allocated had decided not to return to community for personal reasons. The reallocation of the two houses was to be discussed at the Housing Reference Group meeting on 8 November 2012, however a quorum of members was not achieved. The Northern Territory Department of Housing advised that it is contacting Housing Reference Group members to reschedule another meeting to reallocate the houses.