

## Senate Community Affairs Legislation Committee

### SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES - 21 NOVEMBER 2013 ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

#### Department of Human Services

**Topic:** Electricity Purchasing

**Question reference number:** HS 39

**Senator:** Ludwig

**Type of question:** Written

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer:** 24 January 2014

**Number of pages:** 1

**Question:**

- a) What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?
- b) What are the department/agency electricity costs from 7 September 2013 to date?

**Answer:**

- a) DHS electricity purchasing arrangements will vary according to the state location, the quantity of electricity consumed at each site, and whether the geographic location is open to competition. The electricity purchasing arrangements, based on location and site consumption (small and large market), are as follows:

*Australian Capital Territory – large market sites:*

ERM Power Retail Pty Ltd – four (4) year contract commenced July 2011.

*Queensland, New South Wales, South Australia and Victoria – large market sites:*

Momentum Energy Pty Ltd – four (4) year contract commenced October 2011.

*Queensland, South Australia and Victoria – small market sites:*

Energy Australia – three (3) year contract commenced March 2011 for Victoria and Queensland (other than regional). Ergon Energy supplies regional Queensland with arrangements in place on a site by site basis.

*Tasmania – small and large market sites:*

Aurora Energy – three (3) year contract commenced May 2012.

*New South Wales and Australian Capital Territory – small market sites:*

Supply arrangements on a site by site basis with ActewAGL, AGL, Country Energy, Energy Australia, Integral Energy and Origin Energy. A procurement process is underway and should be finalised by the end of January 2014. It is intended that one supplier will be selected from this procurement exercise.

*Western Australia sites – large and small market sites:*

Supply arrangements on a site by site basis with WesternPower, Synergy and PowerWater.

*NT sites – large and small market sites:*

Supply arrangements on a site by site basis with PowerWater.

- b) The department's electricity costs, excluding GST, ranges between \$1.9 million and \$2.0 million per month.