Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications

Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Additional Estimates Hearings February 2014

Communications Portfolio

Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency

Question No: 434

Program No. Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA) Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Diner's Club cards

Senator Ludwig asked:

- 1. What is the arrangement with diners club for provision of credit cards for the Whole of Government Travel arrangements?
- 2. What is the cost of using diners club to the government, listed by Government and Agency in fees and other charges?
- 3. What are the criteria for staff receiving credit cards? Does the criteria vary between SES and other levels; do they require pre-approval for certain classes of expenses?
- 4. Please detail the limits of the credit cards issued to departmental staff; the types of cards; the card issuers.

Answer:

- 1. The arrangement with Diners Club is part of a Whole-of-Australian-Government coordinated procurement established by the Department of Finance.
- 2. There is no cost to individual agencies for provision of Diners Club credit cards, however the use of any credit card may be subject to merchant fees charged by the vendor.
- 3. An official is eligible for a corporate credit card where the official:
 - is an Executive officer; or
 - purchases property or services on behalf of the Agency; or
 - travels on official business on behalf of the Agency; or
 - is an officer who books travel on behalf of travellers.
- 4. All card holders have an individual transaction limit of \$9,999. The standard monthly transaction limit for agency officers is from \$10,000 to \$20,000. Variations to these limits are considered on a case by case basis.