

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

**Question No:** 133  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Corporate  
**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)  
**Topic:** Taxi Costs  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 19 February 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

Since the change of Prime Minister on 14 September, 2015:

1. How much did each department/agency spend on taxis during the specified period? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency.
2. What are the reasons for taxi costs?
3. How much did the department spend on taxis during the specified period for their minister or minister's office?

**Answer:**

**Department of the Environment**

1. The Department spent \$105,669 (GST inclusive) from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Australian Antarctic Division	21,450
Biodiversity Conservation Division	15,026
Cities Taskforce Division	357
Climate Change and Renewable Energy Division	4,000
Commonwealth Environmental Water Office	5,168
Corporate Strategies Division	6,212
Emissions Reduction Fund Division	3,516
Environment Quality Division	9,982
Environmental Assessment and Compliance	7,320
Executive Division	1,682
General Counsel Division	1,633
Parks Australia Division	170
Policy Analysis and Implementation Division	3,576
Science Division	10,132
Water Division	4,410

Wildlife, Heritage and Marine Division	7,295
<b>Total</b>	<b>101,929</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. \$45.15 (GST inclusive) from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

### **Australian Renewable Energy Agency**

1. The Agency spent \$4,295 (GST inclusive) from 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Australian Renewable Energy Agency	4,295
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,295</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. Not applicable.

### **Bureau of Meteorology**

1. The Bureau spent \$196,769 (GST inclusive) from 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Corporate Division	29,118
Observations & Infrastructure Division	44,881
Environment & Research Division	49,004
Hazards Warnings and Forecasts Division	51,963
Information Systems and Services Division	21,803
<b>Total</b>	<b>196,769</b>

2. Taxi costs are required as part of Bureau operations. Bureau staff undertake travel to:
  - install, repair, service or maintain our network of observational equipment (much of which is in very remote locations)
  - meet peak demands during severe weather events
  - brief stakeholders and customers
  - undertake business development and meet with clients.
3. Not applicable.

### Clean Energy Finance Corporation

1. The Corporation spent \$37,284 (GST inclusive) from 1 October 2015 to 29 February 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Board *	0
Executive	9,578
Investments & Portfolio Management	17,229
Legal, Compliance, Risk Management & Governance	1,571
Communications & External Relations	4,244
Finance, Treasury, Human Resources, Facilities & Administration	1,499
Information Technology & Telecommunications	3,163
<b>Total</b>	<b>37,284</b>

\* Taxis for Board Members are all associated with their attendance at Board Meetings. This figure is included in the answer to Question No.128 and therefore has been excluded from this analysis in order to avoid duplicative reporting of costs.

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. Not applicable.

### Clean Energy Regulator

1. The Regulator spent \$26,610 (GST inclusive) from 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Office of the CEO	7,337
Office of the General Counsel	229
Scheme Entry and Entitlement	4,629
Regulatory Obligations and Coordination	8,664
Business Operations	5,751
<b>Total</b>	<b>26,610</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. Not applicable.

### Climate Change Authority

1. The Climate Change Authority spent \$5,421 (GST inclusive) from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Climate Change Authority	5,421
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,421</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. Not applicable.

### Director of National Parks

1. The Director spent \$13,014 (GST inclusive) from 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Commonwealth Marine Reserves Branch	5,124
Director National of Parks Executive	2,476
Island and Biodiversity Science Branch	1,293
Joint Management Branch	2,227
Parks Executive Branch	1,894
<b>Total</b>	<b>13,014</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. Not applicable.

### Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1. The Authority spent \$19,131 (GST inclusive) from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Chairman's Branch	1,421
Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use Branch	3,475
Great Barrier Reef Operations Branch	9,587
Policy and Stewardship Branch	4,648
<b>Total</b>	<b>19,131</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.
3. Not applicable.

**Sydney Harbour Federation Trust**

1. The Trust spent \$1,351 (GST inclusive) from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

<b>Business Group</b>	<b>Amount \$</b>
Board & Executive	680
Corporate Services	290
Marketing	381
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,351</b>

2. Taxis are used for official business purposes only when it is cost effective to do so.

3. Not applicable.