

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

**Question No:** 135  
**Hearing:** Additional Estimates  
**Outcome:** Corporate  
**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division (CSD)  
**Topic:** Government payments of accounts  
**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. What has been the average time period for the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors, consultants or others?
2. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in under 30 days?
3. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 30 and 60 days?
4. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 60 and 90 days?
5. How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in between 90 and 120 days? f) How many payments owed (as a number and as a percentage of the total) have been paid in over 120 days?
6. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency since Estimates, 2014?
7. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

**Answer:**

**Department of the Environment**

1 - 5. For the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015:

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
18 days	5,156	179	42	9	12
<b>% of Total</b>	95.5%	3.3%	0.8%	0.2%	0.2%

**Note:** Accounts paid via credit card are not included as payment term details for these payments are not recorded within the Department's financial management information system.

6. Yes. \$3,452.87 interest has been paid from 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2015.
7. The General Interest Charge daily rate, as published by the Australian Taxation Office, is used to calculate interest payable.

### **Australian Renewable Energy Agency**

- 1 - 5. From 14 September 2015, all contractors and consultants were paid within 30 days. From 30 October 2015, payments were delayed due to system access issues arising from the Machinery of Government change. From February 2016, contractors and consultants were paid within 30 days.
6. Nil interest has been paid from 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015.
7. Not applicable.

### **Bureau of Meteorology**

1 - 5.

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
23 days	3,780	279	88	0	0
<b>% of Total</b>	91.2%	6.7%	2.1%	0.0%	0.0%

6. Nil interest has been paid from 14 September 2014 to 31 December 2015.
7. Not applicable.

### **Clean Energy Finance Corporation**

1 - 5. For the period 15 September 2015 to 19 February 2016:

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
11 days	1,255	21	1	0	0
<b>% of Total</b>	98.3%	1.6%	0.1%	0.0%	0.0%

6. Nil interest has been paid from 15 September 2015 to 19 February 2016.
7. Not applicable.

### **Clean Energy Regulator**

1 - 5. For the period 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015:

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
29 days	594	71	19	13	3
<b>% of Total</b>	84.9%	10.1%	2.7%	1.9%	0.4%

6. Yes. \$2,655.93 interest has been paid from 14 September 2015 to 31 December 2015.
7. The General Interest Charge daily rate, as published by the Australian Taxation Office, is used to calculate interest payable.

## Climate Change Authority

1 - 5.

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
7 days	1	0	0	0	0
<b>% of Total</b>	100%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%

6. Nil interest has been paid from 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2015.

7. Not applicable.

## Director of National Parks

1 - 5. For the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015:

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
18 days	1,935	21	5	4	5
<b>% of Total</b>	98.2%	1.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%

**Note:** Accounts paid via credit card are not included as payment term details for these payments are not recorded within the Director's financial management information system.

6. Nil interest has been paid from 1 October 2014 to 31 December 2015.

7. Not applicable.

## Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

1 - 5. For the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015:

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
19 days	664	87	19	4	16
<b>% of Total</b>	84.1%	11.0%	2.4%	0.5%	2.0%

6. Nil interest has been paid from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

7. Not applicable.

## Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

1 - 5. For the period 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015:

<b>1. Average</b>	<b>2. Under 30</b>	<b>3. 30-60</b>	<b>4. 60-90</b>	<b>5. 90-120</b>	<b>f. Over 120</b>
23 days	1,415	322	38	13	11
<b>% of Total</b>	78.7%	17.9%	2.1%	0.7%	0.6%

6. Nil interest has been paid from 1 October 2015 to 31 December 2015.

7. Not applicable.