

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Budget Estimates Hearings May 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Department of Communications**

**Question No: 527**

**Program No. 1.1**

**Hansard Ref: In Writing**

**Topic: Independent cost-benefit analysis and review of regulation**

**Senator Urquhart asked:**

In reference to the *Independent cost-benefit analysis and review of regulation*:

- a. How many days have the panel of experts been engaged so far?
- b. Are there any additional out-of-pocket expenses that should be added to that? Can you add on to the panel any extra costs that are associated with that on top of the payment per day?

**Answer:**

- a. Based on invoices received to 30 June 2014, the four panel members have been engaged for a total of 202 days.
- b. In addition to daily remuneration, the panel's expenses incurred in performing their duties, essentially travel (including flights) and accommodation, are also paid by the Department (either through directly organising and paying or reimbursing on provision of appropriate receipts). Based on invoices to 30 June 2014 these expenses have totalled \$31,463.50 (GST exclusive).