

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

Question No: 168
Hearing: Budget Estimates
Outcome: Corporate
Programme: Corporate Strategies Division
Topic: PORTFOLIO WIDE - ON GOING CONTRACTS
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 11 June 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Ludwig asked:

How many new employees have been engaged by your department on ongoing contracts since the 2013 federal election?

- a) How many new ongoing engagements were submitted to the Public Service Commission for approval since the 2013 federal election?
- b) How many of these new ongoing engagements were approved by the Public Service Commission?
- c) For every approved new engagement of a ongoing employee please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for approving this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.
- d) How many of these new ongoing employee applications were rejected by the Public Service Commission?
- e) For every new ongoing engagement rejected by the Public Service Commission please provide the following details: APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, the reason for engaging the new employee and the reason given by the Public Service Commission for rejecting this engagement, as well as all relevant dates relating to this application.
- f) How many new employees have been engaged on ongoing contracts without the approval of the Public Service Commission?
- g) For every ongoing employee engaged without the Public Service Commission's approval please provide the following details: the employee's age, gender, wage, APS level, a description of their job, the length of their ongoing contract, whether this position was advertised externally, the reason for engaging this new employee and the reason for engaging this employee without the Public Service Commission's approval, as well as all relevant dates.

Answer:

Number of ongoing engagements between 31 August 2013 and 30 April 2014	
Department of the Environment	35
Bureau of Meteorology	42
Clean Energy Regulator	18
Climate Change Authority	0
Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority	3
Murray-Darling Basin Authority	9
National Water Commission	0
Sydney Harbour Federation Trust	0

Department of the Environment

- a) Nil. The Department is not required to seek approval from the Public Service Commission to engage an employee; the approval that is required relates to the advertisement of positions.
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable
- g) Not applicable

Bureau of Meteorology

- a) Nil. Portfolio agencies are not required to seek approval from the Public Service Commission to engage an employee; the approval that is required relates to the advertisement of positions.
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable
- g) Not applicable

Clean Energy Regulator

- a) Although agencies are not required to seek approval to engage an employee, the Clean Energy Regulator submitted one new ongoing engagement to the Australian Public Service Commission for approval.
- b) The engagement was approved by the Australian Public Service Commission.

c)

Age	47
Gender	Male
Wage	SES officers are employed under individual contract and their salary cannot be disclosed publicly
APS level	SES Band 1
Job description	Senior Executive
Length of engagement	Ongoing
Advertised externally	Yes
Reason for engagement	New role
Reason for approval	Essential to operations of agency
Relevant dates	The date range for this response is from 31 August 2013 and 30 April 2014

- d) Nil
- e) Not applicable
- f) Nil
- g) Not applicable

Climate Change Authority

- a) Nil. Portfolio agencies are not required to seek approval from the Public Service Commission to engage an employee; the approval that is required relates to the advertisement of positions.
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable
- g) Not applicable

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority

- a) 3
- b) 3
- c)

Age	Two employees are aged 40 - 45; one employee is aged 46 - 50
Gender	One employee is female; two employees are male
Wage	\$85,723
APS level	APS 6
Job description	Indigenous Communities Compliance Liaison Officer
Length of engagement	Ongoing
Advertised externally	Yes
Reason for engagement	New role
Reason for approval	Essential to operations of agency
Relevant dates	The employees were engaged on 3 February 2014

- d) Nil
- e) Not applicable
- f) Nil
- g) Not applicable

Murray-Darling Basin Authority

- a) Nil. Portfolio agencies are not required to seek approval from the Public Service Commission to engage an employee; the approval that is required relates to the advertisement of positions.
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable
- g) Not applicable

National Water Commission

- a) Nil. Portfolio agencies are not required to seek approval from the Public Service Commission to engage an employee; the approval that is required relates to the advertisement of positions.
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable
- g) Not applicable

Sydney Harbour Federation Trust

- a) Nil. Portfolio agencies are not required to seek approval from the Public Service Commission to engage an employee; the approval that is required relates to the advertisement of positions.
- b) Not applicable
- c) Not applicable
- d) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- e) Not applicable
- f) Not applicable
- g) Not applicable