

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**

**Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice**

**Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2014**

**Communications Portfolio**

**Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Question No: 561**

**Program No. Australian Broadcasting Corporation**

**Hansard Ref: Page 32 (1/12/2014)**

**Topic: Countdown Production Cost**

**Senator XENOPHON asked:**

**Senator XENOPHON:** Are you sure it is half a million dollars for a *Countdown* special? Can you take that on notice.

**Mr Finlayson:** It is half a million dollars an hour.

**Senator XENOPHON:** Are you sure about that? You do not want to take it on notice?

**Mr Finlayson:** We will take it on notice.

**Senator XENOPHON:** I am inviting you to take it on notice and get back to us as soon as you can.

**Answer:**

The program *Countdown: Do Yourself A Favour* was a two-part series. The total cost of production was approximately \$364,000 per episode and \$727,000 in total.

It is proposed that 21 positions be made redundant in the Adelaide television production unit. As the ABC is still consulting with staff and unions, the ABC is not in a position to confirm the final number of redundancies.