

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

**Question No:** 286  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Corporate  
**Programme:** Corporate Strategies Division  
**Topic:** PORTFOLIO WIDE - MEDIA SUBSCRIPTIONS - PAY TV  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Ludwig asked:**

Since Budget Estimates in June, 2014, what pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have?

- a. Please provide a list of channels and the reason for each channel.
- b. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?
- c. What is provided to the Minister or their office?
- d. What has been the cost of this package/s during the specified period?

**Answer:**

The Department and the Bureau of Meteorology have pay TV subscriptions to Foxtel and Austar as outlined in the table below.

a)

Locality	Channels included	Reason
Bureau of Meteorology - Brisbane Regional Forecasting Centre	Foxtel – standard package including news and weather channels. No additional sports.	Situational awareness during extreme weather events.
Bureau of Meteorology - Willis Island Meteorological Office	Austar – Entertainment + movies, free to air channels, Sci Fi, TV1, Discovery, History, Lifestyle Food and National Geographic channels.	Situational awareness during extreme weather events and entertainment for staff based at a very remote location.
Bureau of Meteorology - Giles Meteorological Office	Foxtel – standard package including news and weather channels, plus extra movie channels and free to air channels.	Situational awareness during extreme weather events and entertainment for staff based at a very remote location.
Bureau of Meteorology - Bureau National Operations Centre (BNOC)	Foxtel – Business Package (includes news, weather and standard sport channels).	Situational awareness during extreme weather events.

Department - John Gorton Building Canberra	Foxtel – Business Package (includes news, weather and standard sport channels).	Used to assist with identifying and tracking issues relevant to the portfolio.
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- b) For the period 1 May 2014 to 30 September 2014, the cost for the services listed above for the Department was \$2,271.00 (GST inclusive), and for the Bureau was 4,895.63 (GST inclusive).
- c) No pay TV subscriptions were provided by the Department for the Minister or his office.
- d) Not applicable.