

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

**Question: BET 1358**

**Topic: Commissioned Reports**

**Written: 17 June 2013**

**Senator BUSHBY asked:**

1358. How many reports have been commissioned by the Government in the department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, terms of reference and committee members.

- a. How much did each report cost/ is estimated to cost?
- b. How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?
- c. What is the current status of each report?
- d. When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?

**Answer:**

Since 30 June 2012, the Government has commissioned 5 new projects:

- a 12-month inquiry into the non-financial barriers to mineral and energy resource exploration (reference received 27 September 2012);
- a 12-month inquiry into the National Access Regime (reference received 25 October 2012);
- a 9-month study on Regulator Engagement with Small Business (reference received 7 December 2012);
- a 12-month study on Major Project Development Assessment Processes (reference received 7 December 2012); and
- a 12-month study on Geographic Labour Mobility (reference received 21 May 2013).

Full details on these projects are provided on the Commission's website at:

<http://www.pc.gov.au/projects>

- (a) Information on the estimated costs of these projects is not available at this time. Where available this will be reported in the Commission's 2012-13 Annual Report.
- (b) Information on staff involved in these projects is shown in table 1 below.

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates

4 – 6 June 2013

Table 1 **Staffing of public inquiries and other commissioned projects commenced FYTD 2012-13**

---

<i>Government-commissioned project</i>	<i>Staffing</i>
Non-financial barriers to mineral and energy resource exploration	1 SES, 3 APS4, 2 APS3, 4 APS2, 1 APS1
National Access Regime	1 SES, 1 APS4, 4 APS2, 1 APS1
Regulator Engagement with Small Business	1 SES, 2 APS4, 3 APS3, 2 APS2, 1 APS1
Major Project Development Assessment Processes	1 SES, 1 APS4, 3 APS3, 2 APS2, 1 APS1
Geographic Labour Mobility	Staffing still to be determined at time of response

- (c) The projects are ongoing. Information on timing of draft and final report dates is available on the Commission's website.
- (d) The Commission does not have information on the proposed timing of Government responses to its reports.