

Economics Legislation Committee
ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Industry Portfolio
Supplementary Budget Estimates 2014-15
23 October 2014

AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRY

TOPIC: Reconciliation Action Plan

REFERENCE: Written Question – Senator Lundy

QUESTION No.: SI-82

In relation to Item 3.3;

1. Please provide an update as to the progress of this initiative since July 2013?
2. How many Aboriginal companies have been awarded supply contracts since July 2013?
3. What is being done by the Department to encourage and support Aboriginal companies in applying for these contracts?

ANSWER

1. Since July 2013, the Department has continued to promote the use of Indigenous businesses in respect of its procurement related activities – including procurement conducted with Indigenous suppliers through Supply Nation.
2. The Department's Financial Management Information System currently captures data on Indigenous SME's with at least 50 per cent Indigenous ownership based on self- identification by suppliers when new vendors are created. For the period 1 July 2013 to 10 November 2014, the Department has procured goods/services from an estimated twelve Indigenous owned SMEs.
3. The Department actively encourages the use of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander companies through training, advice, guidance and regular updates to employees. The Department is a member of Supply Nation and the use of Supply Nation certified suppliers is actively encouraged. Quarterly meetings are also held with Supply Nation to further develop ways to promote procurements from Indigenous companies.