

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications
Legislation Committee**

Supplementary Budget Estimates 2010-2011, October 2010

Answers to questions on notice

Climate Change and Energy Efficiency portfolio

Outcome:	1	Question No:	162
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Media Subscriptions – Pay TV		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Does the Australian Carbon Trust subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust does not subscribe to pay TV.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	163
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Media Subscriptions – Newspapers		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Does the Australian Carbon Trust subscribe to newspapers? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust subscribes to *The Australian Financial Review* at a cost of \$1,140 per annum and the online version of *The Financial Times* at a cost of US\$186.68 per annum.

The newspaper subscriptions are an important news source for industry developments, issues and trends, particularly for the financial and property sectors and international business developments, economic and industry trends.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	164
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Media Subscriptions – Magazines		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Does the Australian Carbon Trust subscribe to magazines? If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust subscribes to *BRW* at a cost of \$235 per annum and *MarketingMag* at a cost of \$83 per annum.

The *BRW* subscription is used as a reference for current affairs, business and industry issues and developments. The *MarketingMag* subscription is used as a reference guide for events, marketing trends, issues and current affairs.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	165
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Media Monitoring		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etc, provided to the Australian Carbon Trust in the 2009-10 financial year?
2. Which agency or agencies provided these services?

Answer:

1. There was no expenditure on media monitoring services, including press clippings, and electronic media transcripts in the 2009-10 financial year.
2. Not applicable.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	166
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – Hawker Britton		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing Hawker Britton.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	167
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – Shannon’s Way		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed Shannon’s Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon’s Way? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing Shannon’s Way.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	168
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – John Utting & UMR Research Group		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	169
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – McCann-Erickson		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing McCann-Erickson.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	170
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – Cutting Edge		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing Cutting Edge.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	171
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – Ikon Communications		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing Ikon Communications.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	172
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – CMAX Communications		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing CMAX Communications.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	173
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – Boston Consulting Group		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing Boston Consulting Group.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	174
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Contractors – McKinsey & Company		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

Has the Australian Carbon Trust ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.

Answer:

The Australian Carbon Trust has not employed and is not considering employing McKinsey & Company.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	175
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Advertising and Marketing		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. How much has the Australian Carbon Trust spent on advertising and marketing since Budget Estimates?
2. Why?

Answer:

1. The Australian Carbon Trust has spent \$8,594 on advertising and \$11,310 on marketing since Budget Estimates.
2. The advertising expense was incurred for public notices in *The Australian* and *The Australian Financial Review* to seek Expressions of Interest under the Australian Carbon Trust's Energy Efficiency Program. The marketing expense was incurred for website development.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	176
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Advertising and Marketing		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What communications programs has the Australian Carbon Trust undertaken since additional estimates and what communications programs are planned to be undertaken?
2. For each program, what is the total spend?

Answer:

1. The Australian Carbon Trust (Carbon Trust) has not undertaken a formal communications program since Additional Estimates and currently has no plans to undertake a formal communications program.

The Carbon Trust has given presentations on the Carbon Trust and met with stakeholders (officials of state and local governments, businesses, NGOs and industry groups, Universities etc) across capital cities and certain regional centres.

2. No formal communications program has been undertaken, but the aforementioned meetings with stakeholders have been part of the Carbon Trust establishment activities.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	177
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Reviews		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What is the total number of Reviews both completed and ongoing in the Australian Carbon Trust or affecting the Australian Carbon Trust since Budget Estimates 2010?
2. Please provide a breakdown of reviews completed since Budget Estimates 2010 including:
 - a) when those reviews were provided to Government,
 - b) estimated cost of producing each review (and total cost) and
 - c) if the Government has responded to the review or information about when the Government has indicated it will/will not respond to the review.
3. How many reviews are ongoing?
4. How many reviews have been completed since additional estimates?
5. What further reviews are planned in the Australian Carbon Trust?
6. Will any of these reviews cease due to the 2010 Election?

Answer:

To the best of the Australian Carbon Trust's (Carbon Trust's) knowledge and belief:

1. There have been no completed or ongoing reviews in the Carbon Trust or affecting the Carbon Trust since Budget Estimates 2010.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.
4. No reviews have been completed since additional estimates.
5. There are no further reviews planned in the Carbon Trust.
6. Not applicable.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	178
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Government Payment of Accounts		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. Has the Australian Carbon Trust paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e. within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)
2. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?
3. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Not applicable.
3. Not applicable.

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	179
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Staffing Levels		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. What is the total expenditure on staffing for the Australian Carbon Trust? What is the SES and non-SES breakdown?
2. What has been the general staffing trend in the Australian Carbon Trust since the 2007 election (for example SES numbers and recruitment has increased by X per cent because of Y).
3. If the Australian Carbon Trust has been identified in the 2010 election as delivering efficiencies (savings), how will these be delivered? (for example, savings commitments included reducing program funding, rationalising grants etc how will these impact the department and staffing).

Answer:

1. The total expenditure on staffing (inclusive of workers compensation, staff amenities, superannuation, annual leave entitlements, payroll processing costs etc) for the Australian Carbon Trust (Carbon Trust) is currently \$186,424 per month, based on October 2010 expenses.

The Carbon Trust is a Company Limited by Guarantee and staff are not employed under the *Public Service Act 1999*.

The Carbon Trust has three SES equivalent employees and 12 non-SES equivalent employees.

2. The Carbon Trust was incorporated in January 2010 and initial staff were employed commencing 15 March 2010. Accordingly, all staff have been employed subsequent to the 2007 election.
3. To the best of the Carbon Trust's knowledge and belief, it has not been identified in the 2010 election as delivering efficiencies (savings).

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Outcome:	1	Question No:	180
Program:	Corporate		
Division/Agency:	Carbon Trust		
Topic:	Consultancies		
Hansard Page EC:	Written		

Senator Abetz asked:

1. Is the Australian Carbon Trust up to date with its reporting requirements on the Government's tenders and contacts website?
2. Are the figures available on that site correct?

Answer:

1. Yes.
2. Yes.