Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications Answers to Senate Estimates Questions on Notice

Supplementary Budget Estimates Hearings November 2013

Communications Portfolio Australia Post

Question No: 89

Program No. Australia Post

Hansard Ref: In Writing

Topic: Electricity purchasing

Senator Ludwig asked:

- a) What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement?
- b) What are the department/agency electricity costs from 7 September 2013 to date?

Answer:

a) Australia Post has the following electricity purchasing arrangements:

Large Sites

Australia Post has negotiated for its large sites, calendar year contracts, with a single supplier in individual states. This represents approximately 65% of the total electricity consumed by the organisation.

Small Sites

Australia Post has negotiated a separate contract with a single supplier to cover the majority of sites such as retail outlets and delivery centres, representing approximately 15% of the total electricity consumed by the organisation.

Landlord and Local Area Network Sites

Australia Post also pays electricity for a smaller number of sites where electricity is included as part of the contractual arrangement with a landlord where Australia Post does not negotiate the price directly with the retailer. Other large and small sites are with Local Area Retail Network providers where alternate retailers are not available or where these arrangements are more cost effective than contracting with alternate electricity retailers. Both these arrangements represent approximately 20% of the total electricity consumed by the organisation.

b) Australia Post spent \$5.5m on electricity during the period 7 September to 31 October. Australia Post accounting systems report monthly usage, therefore this figure has been calculated on a pro rata working day basis from period 1 September to 31 October 2013.