

Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee—Budget Estimates May 2007

Answers to Questions on Notice

Parliamentary Portfolio, Department of Parliamentary Services

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Topic: Instructions to cleaners to switch off lights

Question P12

Senator MURRAY—With respect to common-sense energy saving, I am sure there are times when members and senators, for instance, run out of their offices to catch a flight and leave lights on. Are your cleaning staff and others who go into offices instructed to switch off lights and check that everything is off?

Ms Barrett—I am not sure about that. I would have to check with facilities. I am aware that Senate and, I think, House of Representatives staff make sure, certainly at the end of parliamentary sitting periods and so on, that those things are done. I will check to find out what general instructions there are.

Answer

DPS has asked cleaning staff to switch off all office lights as they leave offices. This request has most recently been reiterated to the cleaning supervisors by a DPS facilities officer on 22 May, 1 June and 4 June 2007. A sign reminding cleaners to turn off lights when they have finished cleaning has also been placed in the cleaners' lunchroom. The request has also been added to the agenda for the regular cleaning staff meetings.