

Question No: 155

Question: Fringe Benefit Tax Payable in Remote Communities

Date: 11/08/92

Member: Mr BELL

To: MINISTER for HEALTH and COMMUNITY SERVICES

1. What estimates of the fringe benefits tax liabilities have been made as a result of free power becoming a condition of service for some staff employed on remote communities.
2. How much will these fringe benefit taxes add to the department's budget for 1992-93.
3. From which programs will fringe benefit taxes be paid.

ANSWER

1. In accordance with guidelines provided by the Australian Taxation Office, the following establishments controlled by the Department of Health and Community Services are exempt from fringe benefits tax -

all Northern Territory public hospitals;
all rural community health centres; and
all urban community health centres.

As all staff of the Department of Health and Community Services receiving free electricity in remote areas are employed at rural community health centres, no fringe benefits tax is applicable. No estimate of fringe benefits tax has been calculated.

2. There will be no additional cost to the budget for 1992-93.
3. No programs will be affected.