

Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements 2014-15

Communications Portfolio

Explanations of Additional Estimates 2014-15



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Assistant Secretary, Finance and Risk Management Branch, Corporate Division
Telephone: (02) 6271 1058 (international +61 2 6271 1058)
Email: finance@communications.gov.au



The Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP

MINISTER FOR COMMUNICATIONS

President of the Senate
Australian Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Speaker
House of Representatives
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

Dear Mr President
Dear Madam Speaker

I hereby submit Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements in support of the 2014-15 Additional Estimates for the Communications Portfolio.

These statements have been developed, and are submitted to the Parliament, as a statement on the outcomes for the Portfolio.

I present these statements to provide accountability to the Parliament and, through it, the public.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Malcolm Turnbull', written over a horizontal line.

Malcolm Turnbull

Abbreviations and conventions

The following notations may be used:

NEC/nec	not elsewhere classified
-	nil
..	not zero, but rounded to zero
na	not applicable (unless otherwise specified)
nfp	not for publication
\$m	\$ million
\$b	\$ billion

Figures in tables and in the text may be rounded. Figures in text are generally rounded to one decimal place, whereas figures in tables are generally rounded to the nearest thousand. Discrepancies in tables between totals and sums of components are due to rounding.

Enquiries

Should you have any enquiries regarding this publication please contact Mr Kurt Munro, Chief Financial Officer in the Department of Communications on (02) 6271 1058.

A copy of this document can be located on the Australian Government Budget website at: <http://www.budget.gov.au>

**USER GUIDE
TO THE
PORTFOLIO ADDITIONAL
ESTIMATES STATEMENTS**

USER GUIDE

The purpose of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements (PAES), like that of the Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements), is to inform Senators and Members of Parliament of the proposed allocation of resources to Government outcomes by entities within the portfolio. The focus of the PAES differs from the PB Statements in one important aspect. While the PAES include an Entity Resource Statement to inform Parliament of the revised estimate of the total resources available to an entity, the focus of the PAES is on explaining the changes in resourcing by outcome(s) since the Budget. As such, the PAES provides information on new measures and their impact on the financial and/or non-financial planned performance of programmes supporting those outcomes.

The PAES facilitate understanding of the proposed appropriations in Appropriation Bills (Nos. 3 and 4) 2014-15. In this sense the PAES is declared by the Additional Estimates Appropriation Bills to be a 'relevant document' to the interpretation of the Bills according to section 15AB of the *Acts Interpretation Act 1901*.

Whereas the *Mid-Year Economic and Fiscal Outlook (MYEFO) 2014-15* is a mid-year budget report which provides updated information to allow the assessment of the Government's fiscal performance against its fiscal strategy, the PAES update the most recent budget appropriations for entities within the portfolio.

Structure of the Portfolio Additional Estimates Statements

The PAES are presented in three parts with subsections.

User Guide

Provides a brief introduction explaining the purpose of the PAES.

Portfolio Overview

Provides an overview of the portfolio, including a chart that outlines the outcomes for entities in the portfolio.

Entity Additional Estimates Statements

A statement (under the name of the entity) for each entity affected by Additional Estimates.

Section 1: Entity Overview and Resources	This section details the total resources available to an entity, the impact of any measures since Budget, and impact on Appropriation Bills Nos. 3 and 4.
Section 2: Revisions to Resources and Planned Performance	This section details changes to Government resources and/or changes to the planned performance of entity programmes.
Section 3: Explanatory Tables and Budgeted Financial Statements	This section contains updated explanatory tables on special account flows and staffing levels and revisions to the budgeted financial statements.
Glossary	Explains key terms relevant to the Portfolio.
Acronyms	Alphabetical guide to acronyms that may be used in the Statements

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PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

COMMUNICATIONS PORTFOLIO OVERVIEW

Minister and Portfolio Responsibilities

The Communications Portfolio includes the following agencies:

- Department of Communications
- Australia Post
- Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC)
- Australian Communications and Media Authority (ACMA)
- NBN Co Limited (NBN Co)
- Special Broadcasting Service Corporation (SBS)
- Telecommunications Universal Service Management Agency (TUSMA).

A full outline of the Communications Portfolio overview can be found in the 2014-15 Portfolio Budget Statements (PB Statements).

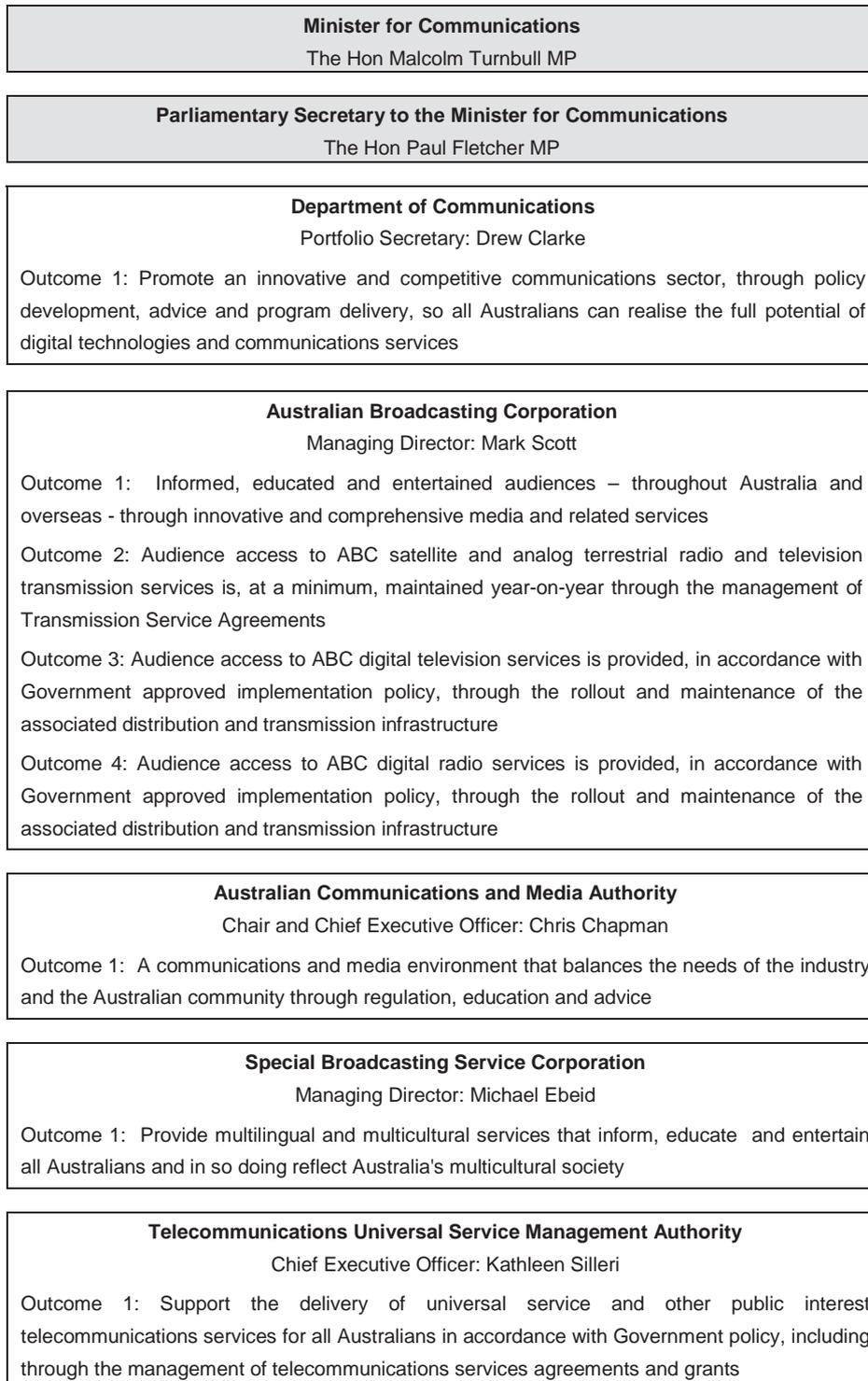
Additional estimates and variations are being sought for the Department and the ACMA. A summary of the changes arising through the 2014-15 Additional Estimates follows for the Portfolio. Details relating to new measures are contained within the relevant agency chapter.

The Department is seeking an increase in funding of \$3.4 million through Appropriation Bill (No. 3) and \$5.8 million through Appropriation Bill (No. 4).

The ACMA is seeking an increase in funding of \$4.0 million through Appropriation Bill (No. 3) and \$0.2 million through Appropriation Bill (No. 4).

A summary of the Portfolio structure is at Figure 1. Further detail about the responsibilities of each agency appears in individual agency chapters of the 2014-15 Communications PB Statements.

Figure 1: Communications Portfolio Structure and Outcomes



Portfolio Resources

Table 1 shows for those entities reporting in the PAES the additional resources provided to the portfolio in the 2014-15 budget year, by entity.

Table 1: Portfolio Resources 2014-15

	Appropriation			Receipts	Total
	Bill No. 3 \$m	Bill No. 4 \$m	Special \$m	\$m	\$m
Department of Communications					
Departmental appropriations	3.4	5.8	–	–	9.2
Total:	3.4	5.8	–	–	9.2
Australian Communications and Media Authority					
Departmental appropriations	4.0	0.2	–	–	4.3
Total:	4.0	0.2	–	–	4.3
Portfolio total	7.4	6.0	–	–	13.4
	Resources available within portfolio				13.4