

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 28 – 29 MAY 2008

Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
1	8 (28 May)	Kemp	Election Commitments	Senator KEMP —... Has the department got a list of the election promises made by the government that it is required to administer?	General	PCD	04/08/08
2	11 (28 May)	Kemp	PQ 16 – Election Commitments	Senator KEMP —... This is the famous question No. 16, which asked, ‘Could you tell us what your election commitments are?’ and which was too hard to answer. I ask the minister: when did she receive the answer to that question?	General	PCD	04/08/08
3	12 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	PQ 16 – Election Commitments	Senator IAN MACDONALD —Could I ask your departmental officials to indicate when they submitted that answer to you?... Mr Borthwick —We will take that on notice.	General	PCD	04/08/08
4	13 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Incoming Government Brief Election Commitments	Mr Borthwick —Yes, we did give the incoming ministers a brief. Senator IAN MACDONALD —... Would it be possible to get a list of the headings of the brief which you gave to the minister on their election promises?	General	PCD	04/08/08
5	16 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	MO Staff	Senator IAN MACDONALD —I think what Senator Parry is asking is: has there been any change since you last gave detailed information— Mr Borthwick —No. Senator IAN MACDONALD —not only of departmental staff, as I understand Senator Parry’s question, but also of personal staff to both ministers? You will have to take that on notice. Senator Wong —I will take it on notice in respect of both of us—certainly in respect of Mr Garrett, because we just want to make sure that is correct. I can indicate—and we will correct this if I am wrong—that I do not believe there has been any change in the number of positions allocated within the minister’s office. I may have filled one or more positions since we last met.	General	CSD	04/08/08
6	16 (28 May)	Parry	Papua New Guinea trip	Senator PARRY —Are you happy to take it on notice from this committee? Senator Wong —Yes... Senator PARRY —I understand Minister Garrett attended also. Could you indicate why both of you attended? Senator Wong —Again, I do not have all this information in front of me. The delegation was led by the foreign minister. The delegation included the trade minister, Minister Garrett, Minister Ferguson, myself and I think two parliamentary secretaries. I will have to take on notice the rest because I do not have the details in front of me... There may an officer here who can assist me, but a key issue for Minister Garrett to finalise on that visit was the Kokoda Track and the negotiations with Papua New Guinea about the preservation of that track, which is obviously a key concern for Australia... Senator PARRY —Would it have been more cost effective for the Commonwealth if either Minister Garrett represented you or you represented Minister Garrett rather than having both of you there? ... Senator PARRY —Could we have some details about the staff that accompanied you and Minister Garrett, any media that accompanied you and what the media were invoiced, if they were invoiced, for any costs in relation to utilising a chartered aircraft, and also accommodation, if the media was accommodated by the department? ...Was the media accommodated by the department? That can be provided on notice if you are comfortable to do it that way. Senator Wong —I can indicate to you from my perspective that, in terms of personal staff, I think I took one staff member. Because I do not have the details, I will take on notice the other questions you ask about who else attended...	General	PCD	04/08/08

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7	17 (28 May)	Johnson	Bali trip PQ 90	<p>Senator JOHNSTON—Mr Borthwick, in answer to question No. 90, the actual minister responded and said that to get to Bali he incurred travel expenses of \$5,502. Was that with Qantas, and which other destination was it via to get there? Was it first class, business class, economy class?</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—... I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>...Senator JOHNSTON—Could you tell me which airline it was?</p> <p>...Senator JOHNSTON—Mr Garrett had accommodation for the five nights that he stayed in Denpasar and the expenses were \$5,832, which tells me that that was over \$1,000 per night. Could you explain that to us, please?</p> <p>...Senator JOHNSTON—Could you have a good look at that, and please take on notice that I would like a full and complete explanation as to who arranged your minister’s accommodation in Bali? I take it it was at Nusa Dua or somewhere like that.</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—It would have been negotiated through the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.</p> <p>Senator JOHNSTON—... I would like to know why he had accommodation in excess of \$1,000 per night in Bali, and I would like a detailed breakdown of that \$5,832... He had other expenses on top of that of \$7,206. I would like to know what that accounts for too...these expenses were probably remitted back to your department, were they not?</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—I do not know who met those expenses, but I will take it on notice and give to you the detail that you have requested...</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—There were some functions which Australia hosted...</p> <p>Senator JOHNSTON—I would like the details of all of that, thank you...</p> <p>...Senator JOHNSTON—With respect, Mr Borthwick, the minister was accompanied by one adviser. His travel costs were \$3,005. This is, again, question No. 90. The accommodation for that person was \$2,366 and he had other expenses of \$1,578, with expenses still to be acquitted when this question was received on 16 May. Could you advise me the full details of each of those pieces of expenditure, as to which airline was travelled, what class, via which destination, where the accommodation was had, what nightly rate was incurred and what precisely the other expenses entailed, including the sum yet to be acquitted to that. I understand that it might be some \$3,000 outstanding in addition to that.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I am not sure where you get that information. The answer to the question on notice says that other expenses are still to be acquitted.</p> <p>Senator JOHNSTON—...Also, Mr Borthwick, with respect, two other officers of the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts attended the conference. ... One officer attended the conference from the 9th to the 16th. The other officer attended the conference from the 9th to the 15th. The total travel cost for these officers was \$5,537. I would like to know exactly which airline, what class and which destination they went via. Their accommodation was \$9,195. I would like to know the nightly rate and what other expenses were incurred in that nightly accommodation. They also incurred additional expenses of \$5,412. I would like to know precisely what that entailed.</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—I will take that on notice too.</p>	General	PCD	04/08/08
8	19 (28 May)	Parry	List of Advisory Boards – Environment	<p>Senator PARRY—... can the department provide a full list of all advisory boards which advise you in relation to environment and heritage matters?... Could the list contain the name of each board member, remuneration, term of office, appointment date and expiry date; whether the classification is</p>	General	PCD	12/08/08

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			and Heritage	full or part time; number of occasions that the committee has met; any forward schedule of meetings; and any description of board duties or advisory panel duties. ... Mr Borthwick —I would be happy to take that on notice.			
9	21 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Bali function	Senator IAN MACDONALD —...the Bali conference had a budget item of, I think, \$37,000 for a reception or a party put on by the Australian delegation...Was Mr Garrett at the function? Senator Wong —I do not know. Senator IAN MACDONALD —Can you take that on notice? Senator Wong —Sure. Senator IAN MACDONALD —We both agree that the payment seems to have come out of Mr Rudd's department. I am trying to find out from your point of view—and it is a bit hard, if you were not there—or from Mr Garrett's point of view, what the purpose of the slap-up do was. ... Senator Wong —... I will have to take that question on notice and I would refer you to the answers given and taken on notice in the Prime Minister's portfolio.	General	PCD	04/08/08
10	22 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Bali Function	Senator IAN MACDONALD —Thank you for that. I am wondering if there was a climate change or an environmental aspect for putting on a fairly expensive party \$26,000, I think it was—for environmental lobby groups and other climate change insiders. ... Senator IAN MACDONALD —How many of them were in the delegation and is there any detail about how many were at the party? Senator Wong —I do not know the invitation list for the party. I will have to take that on notice...I flag that I will probably refer that to the finance and public administration portfolio, where I think your colleagues asked the same question and it was taken on notice.	General	PCD	04/08/08
11	22 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Bali Function	Senator IAN MACDONALD —Insofar as Mr Garrett is concerned, could I inquire, obviously on notice, whether he was aware of a second separate private party with a string quartet in the Prime Minister's villa for journalists? Can we get Mr Garrett's view on that too? Mr Borthwick —We will take that on notice. Senator IAN MACDONALD —That should not take long. If we could get it before the end of the next two days, that would be very helpful.	General	PCD	08/08/08
12	24 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Budget night function	Senator IAN MACDONALD —I am wanting to find out whether your office or Mr Garrett's office had any particular budget night function, apart from the one that everyone went to. If they did, could you let me know what it cost and who was invited?	General	PCD	04/08/08
13	27 (28 May)	Kemp	Bali Function	Senator KEMP —...on the issue of the function that was put on by the Prime Minister and the use of a string quartet. I can confirm that there was such a string quartet...The question is, Senator Wong—this may have been asked before, but just for the record—was such a function held? How many people attended that function? ... Senator KEMP —You were at the first function, though. I have had that confirmed. ... Senator Wong —I do not recall me personally attending such a function. I can take that on notice...	General	PCD	04/08/08
14	29 (28 May)	Kemp	Ministers performance indicators	Senator KEMP —...But what I am asking you is: have you received any other formal document from the Prime Minister outlining your duties and your performance indicators? ... Senator Wong —... In terms of any further correspondence between the Prime Minister and myself, I will have to take that on notice.	General	PCD	04/08/08
15	Written	Fierravanti-	Current	In relation to the Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts and agencies within its	General	PCD	08/08/08

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	Question on Notice	Wells	Programs in Electorates	responsibility, please answer the following questions in relation to each of the Federal seats of Banks, Lowe, Bennelong, Macquarie, Cunningham, Throsby, Barton, Watson, Charlton and Werriwa: a) What programs, initiatives, or other undertakings of the Howard Government will be maintained under the Rudd Government? b) What programs, initiatives, or other undertakings of the Howard Government will be reversed under the Rudd Government? c) What new programs, initiatives or other undertakings will be allocated to these seats under the Budget?			
16	Written Question on Notice	Fierravanti-Wells	Election promises	Please advise whether the list of items under the policy heading on the ALP website constitutes the total sum election "promises" made by the Rudd Government within the following portfolios: Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts. If not, please provide a comprehensive list which includes all promises referred to on the ALP website as well as those that were made but are not contained on the ALP website?	General	PCD	04/08/08
17	Written Question on Notice	Fierravanti-Wells	Appointments to boards, committees, quangos	(a) What appointments have been made to boards, advisory committees, or any other quasi-autonomous non-governmental organisations (quangos) within the following departments and agencies within the responsibility of these departments since 24 November 2008: Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (b) Please list all quangos within the following departments and agencies within the responsibility of these departments: Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	General	PCD	08/08/08
18	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Public Affairs	(a) Does the Department monitor the media? (b) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (c) Is any information provided to the Minister? (d) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (e) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (f) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?	General	PCD	08/08/08
19	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Appointments	(a) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (b) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (c) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (d) How long have the positions been vacant? (e) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio?	General	PCD	18/08/08
20	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Freedom of Information	(a) Has the Department received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (b) How many FOI requests has the Department received? (c) How many have been granted or denied? (d) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?	General	PCD	08/08/08
21	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Efficiency Dividend	(a) Did the Department seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend? (b) If so, why did the Department feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted?	General	PCD	31/07/08

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				(c) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will the Department manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can the Department outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures? (d) Is the Department budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend? (e) Has the Department made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?			
22	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Minister's Travel costs/DLOs	(a) Has the Minister travelled overseas on official business since appointment? (b) If so, where was the travel and what was the duration? (c) What was the total cost of: (i) travel? (ii) accommodation? (iii) any other expenses? (d) How many Ministerial staff or family accompanied the Minister? (e) For these staff and/or family, what was the cost of: (i) travel? (ii) accommodation? (iii) any other expenses? (f) How many officers from the Department accompanied the Minister? (g) In relation to these Departmental officers, what was the total cost of: (i) travel? (ii) accommodation? (iii) any other expenses? (h) How many Departmental Liaison Officers have been allocated to the Minister? (i) What was the cost of the Minister's travel and expenses for the three Community Cabinet meetings that have been held? (j) How many Ministerial Staff and Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Cabinet meetings? (k) What was the total cost of this travel?	General	PCD	04/08/08
23	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Staffing	(a) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (b) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (c) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (d) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?	General	CSD	31/07/08

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				Ms Mudie —I will get that answer for you.			
27	40 (28 May)	Parry	Japanese hiring of Australian Vessel	Senator PARRY —Has there been any payment, like a securing payment, any deposit made, concerning the Japanese hiring of the vessel? Ms Mudie —Not at this point. The MOU is yet to be signed. Senator PARRY —Will there be a deposit or anything paid upon signing of the MOU? Ms Mudie —I will have to take that on notice but my assumption would be yes.	2.1	AAD	31/07/08
28	41 (28 May)	Parry	Antarctic tourism	Senator PARRY —Thank you. If I can come back to the deputy director of the Antarctic Division: is the division advancing the course of tourism or a tourism protocol amongst all the other nations that are part of the Antarctic Treaty? Ms Mudie —Yes, that is correct. Senator PARRY —How advanced is that? Ms Mudie —That will be discussed at the Antarctic Treaty meeting in June. (a) Senator PARRY —Is there a draft? Ms Mudie —I will have to take that on notice and will provide that information, if there is such a document. ... (b) Senator PARRY —You may have to take this on notice. Do you know how many Australians, and indeed others I suppose, from an international perspective, have travelled to the Australian Antarctic base this summer via the new service? Ms Mudie —I will have to take that on notice.	2.1	AAD	31/07/08
29	42 (28 May)	Parry	Antarctic tourism	Senator PARRY —Do you have a cost basis for a passenger? I presume you charge out for scientists who wish to use the service? Ms Mudie —No, we do not at this point. I would have to get that information. But the aircraft operates and there is a cost for operating the aircraft. We have not done it as a per cent basis.... Senator PARRY —There is no cost recovery at this point for any scientist, anyone travelling? Ms Mudie —It depends if they are part of the Antarctic program. I will have to take that on notice. Senator PARRY —What is the distinction? If they are a part of the Antarctic program, they travel at government expense. If they are not part of the program, they are travelling at government expense. Ms Mudie —I would have to take that on notice. Senator PARRY —How many trips have been undertaken so far? Ms Mudie —Ten in total, but I will double-check that figure	2.1	AAD	31/07/08
30	43 (28 May)	Parry	Leasing of Aircraft	Senator PARRY —Let us get this very clear. We are wet leasing an aircraft— Mr Borthwick —I think it might be best—and this is subject to commercial-in-confidence— Senator PARRY —I am not asking dollars. Mr Borthwick —No, but I think, because of the competitiveness of the international aviation market, when we got this plane it was a remarkably good deal for the Antarctic Division. If we cannot answer these detailed questions now, I think, subject to that commercial-in-confidence thing, we will set out all the terms in a comprehensive way for you. That might be the best, because there is certainly nothing that we want to hide here. If we can also advertise the plane by this medium— ... Senator PARRY —Okay, thank you. You can provide that on notice. Mr Borthwick —We will give you the details of the arrangement, because I think it was a very	2.1	AAD	31/07/08

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				favourable arrangement at the time.			
31	44 (28 May)	Parry	Maintenance of Antarctic runway	Senator PARRY —Do you have any idea what the annual maintenance costs on the Antarctic runway are? Are they expensive? Ms Mudie —I would have to take that on notice.	2.1	AAD	31/07/08
32	46 (28 May)	Allison	Tottenham Glacier	Senator ALLISON —Part of the division is, for instance, examining the Tottenham Glacier, which I understand is near Casey which, according to your reports a couple of month ago, is losing ice at—and has done—10 metres over the last 15 years. Ms Mudie —A very specific scientific response will be required for that. Could I take that on notice and provide you with that information. Senator ALLISON —Okay. I am sorry, I am trying to get a grasp of who is in the division and what sort of work they are doing on this issue. If we can start there. Is there a subgroup? Are there officers whose job it is to monitor ice sheets and glaciers in both our areas and beyond in the Antarctic? Ms Mudie —Yes, there is, but those officers are not present at estimates today. So I would have to take that on notice. Senator ALLISON —Okay. What size is the workforce that is doing this? Ms Mudie —Again, it is a scientific area within the division, and some of that is done collaboratively with the CRC and with UTAS and some of that is done internally. I would have to get the figures of exactly how many are working on that particular area for you. Senator Wong —If I could assist: the information I have been provided with is that in Australia the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystem Cooperative Research Centre, whose co-partners include the Bureau of Meteorology, the Australian Antarctic Division, the CSIRO and the University of Tasmania, is the key centre for such research on Antarctic atmosphere, ice and ocean system. Ms Mudie may be able to assist, but I understand that the scientists who are, I suppose, the full bottle on these issues are not here.	2.1	AAD	31/07/08
33	46 (28 May)	Allison	AAD advice on ecological and biodiversity issues	Senator ALLISON —Yes, I understand that, Minister. I am trying to get at what the Antarctic Division does by way of contribution to the advice which comes to you. Ms Mudie —We will get that specific information for you. We have got people listening. We will see if we can get that to you shortly. The specific science that is actually addressing those particular issues and the number of scientists is what you require? Senator ALLISON —Yes, and what they do, really, would be useful; for example, do we know what effect the glacial retreat has in Heard Island on the flora and fauna, amongst other things? Ms Mudie —I will take that on notice and give you that information.	2.1	AAD	31/07/08
34	47 (28 May)	Allison	Antarctic Peninsula Report	Senator ALLISON —Sorry, I know all that. I apologise for interrupting you but I am interested in what has been added to our knowledge about the Antarctic and sea ice in the last three months, given progress in a number of areas which I have already mentioned, which are all in reports in the paper. I am looking for your expert advice on that. Senator ALLISON —Let me put it this way: a report in March or April said: ... the Antarctic Peninsula is warming faster than anywhere else on Earth— and that is causing a massive retreat and it could collapse quite quickly. The report at the time said that, if this happens, we will see a global sea-level rise of six metres. This is two months ago. What I am asking you is: what is the latest advice on the likelihood that the Antarctic Peninsula will collapse?	2.1	AAD	04/08/08

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				Mr Borthwick —We will take that on notice...			
35	48 (28 May)	Allison	Antarctic Treaty meeting	Senator ALLISON — ... My question is...would the Antarctic Division be in favour of these restrictions, both on heavy oil in case of accidents and the tighter restrictions on sewage and other discharge, and strengthening? Senator ALLISON —What position will you take to that meeting? Ms Mudie —I would have to take that on notice. Dr Press is not here so I would have to take that on notice and get an answer.	2.1	AAD	30/07/08
36	32 (29 May)	Johnston	Whaling	Senator JOHNSTON —When did we agree to lease the <i>Aurora Australis</i> ? Ms Petrachenko —I cannot speak to that. I would have to take that on notice; I am not involved. Senator JOHNSTON —Mr Borthwick? Mr Borthwick —No, I do not know that but, as indicated yesterday, I think an MOU/contract—I am not sure what the words were—was still being discussed. Senator JOHNSTON —We have not done it yet? Mr Borthwick —That is my understanding. Senator JOHNSTON —I want to know precisely—and this is very, very crucial and important—what safeguards, prohibitions, padlocks, chains we have on this Japanese research such that it will not go to their whaling industry. Tell me about them please. Mr Borthwick —This question really relates to the Antarctic Division. My elaboration from the director of the Antarctic Division was in response to questions Senator Siewert made before, but might I make a general observation—	2.2	AAD	30/07/08
37	38 (29 May)	Siewert	Research undertaken on Aurora Australis	Senator SIEWERT —With regard to the projects that were carried out on the vessel, did Australia agree with Japan on what they were, or did Japan just say, ‘This is what we want to do’? Mr Borthwick —I do not have information about that other than to say that Australian Antarctic Division staff will be managing and supporting the voyage. I will have to take that notice about what that science would be. Mr Borthwick —I have indicated in terms of the statement from Dr Press what the science will be on the voyage. I am unable to tell you about what role Australians will be playing in that particular science. In terms of the \$9 million, you are right—there was about one-third for departmental purposes and two-thirds for scientific purposes. Part of that will go to the operational requirements of the voyage; the other part will go into the general scientific program. I do not think—but if I check up and find differently I will correct the record —you will be able to separate out the science that that will go into from the general science that is undertaken by the Antarctic Division. It is just going into the pool of funding that is available for scientific activity.	2.2	AAD	30/07/08
38	38 (29 May)	Siewert	Funding for Research - AAD	Senator SIEWERT —What are the science projects that are being funded under this once-off injection of funding for science? Mr Borthwick —You are talking about the moneys listed in the footnote on this. We will have to get back to you, but I will repeat what I said: I think those monies are going into a general scientific bucket which will be available for a whole host of scientific activity that is undertaken.	2.2	AAD	30/07/08
39	39 (29 May)	Parry	Antartic Research vessel	Senator PARRY —These are the questions we need on notice: (a) who will be in command of the vessel; (b) who will be directing the research activities;	2.2	AAD	30/07/08

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				<p>(c) who will be directing the research activity geographical area where the ship will be traversing; and</p> <p>(d) will the Japanese have any control over the frequency and the scheduling of trips in relation to supply? Primarily this is a supply ship, which will be engaged in research work.</p> <p>(e) I do not know whether the question was asked by Senator Siewert, but what is the breakdown of Australian to Japanese scientists—the ratio?</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—We will take those on notice.</p>			
40	45 (29 May)	Siewert	Antartic Research Vessel	<p>Senator SIEWERT—How can we be assured that there will not be any communication between the Japanese who are doing work on the ship and those who, at the same time, have their whaling vessels in that region?</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—I can only mention that we will be managing and supporting the voyage. I indicated that I would get back to you in terms of what that would involve and those sorts of things....</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—I indicated that I would make inquiries about how communications will be managed— indeed, the broader management of the ship.</p>	2.2	AAD	30/07/08
41	52 (28 May)	Eggleston	Tsunami warning system	<p>Senator EGGLESTON—Given that there are two agencies involved, can you tell me what the total expenditure on these systems is? What is your expenditure in the bureau? Do you know what the level of Geoscience budget allocation for tsunami warning systems is?</p> <p>Dr Love—No. I could go back to the total break-up in the new policy proposal. As I said, I think it was \$68.9 million or \$69.8 million or something over four years, and I think the bureau finished up with about 60 per cent, Geoscience Australia with 38 per cent and Emergency Management Australia with a couple of per cent for public education. We used that money and built synergistically onto the warning capabilities in our forecast centres across Australia. Attribution of cost would be a tricky exercise, because the normal senior forecasters who you hear on the radio talking about the weather in Perth or wherever would also then supervise the issuing of warnings according to standard protocols when they are required. That capability really has not been costed into the services. It is just a small incremental cost, if you like.</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—Could you take on notice what the expenditure is for each agency?</p> <p>Dr Love—We can do that.</p> <p>Dr Love—Just so that I am clear, because I am clearly taking this on notice, you want to know the changes in funding to the tsunami warning service as a consequence of the change in government?</p> <p>Senator EGGLESTON—Yes, for both the Bureau of Meteorology and Geoscience Australia. If you could do that on notice, I would be most grateful.</p> <p>Dr Love—Sure.</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08
42	52 (28 May)	Birmingham	Field meteorological officers	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—... Dr Love, can we turn to the bureau's field meteorological officers. I note in the budget paper in the portfolio statements on page 107 it speaks of the replacement of a number of field meteorological officers and \$1.2 million allocated towards that. Which officers are earmarked for replacement?</p> <p>Dr Love—We will have to take that on notice, I am afraid.</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08
43	54 (28 May)	Birmingham	Water to the Future funds - BOM	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—You may need to take this on notice. Are you able to provide a breakdown of the Water for the Future funds available to the bureau and how that is applied to extra staff versus undertaking programs, new software, research et cetera.</p> <p>Dr Love—Yes, the running cost. Yes.</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08

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44	55 (28 May)	Birmingham	Water for the Future funding	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Are these payments to state government or local government authorities within those states?</p> <p>Dr Love—They are payments to authorities within the states...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—You might like to provide those details on notice.</p> <p>Dr Love—We can give you that, but it is a range of authorities and departments.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Thank you. How are those grants determined? How do you decide the division? Obviously there is some large disparity that is not based necessarily on population or geography between the states.</p> <p>Dr Love—No. Those were not the criteria in the first instance. I do not have a complete list of the criteria. We will provide that to you...</p>	1.1	BOM	04/08/08
45	58 (28 May)	Birmingham	Emergency warning systems - audits	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Dr Love, how frequently are the emergency warning systems operated by the bureau audited?</p> <p>Dr Love—I will take that on notice. ...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Perhaps you could take on notice and detail the schedule of those audits for the different types of programs—when the last audit was had and what the results of that were, please.</p> <p>Dr Love—Sure.</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08
46	59 (28 May)	Birmingham	US forecasting system	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What is the cost of installation for that program?</p> <p>Dr Love—I will have to take that on notice.</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08
47	Written Questions on Notice	Nash	Water/Water Security	<p>(a) What role will the Bureau of Meteorology have in the National Plan for Water Security?</p> <p>(b) Will the Bureau of Meteorology still be the lead the agency for river flow data collection and dissemination under the <i>Water for the Future</i>?</p> <p>(c) How much funding has been allocated to the Bureau of Meteorology under the <i>Water for the Future</i>?</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08
48	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	BOM Administration	<p>(a) Did the Bureau seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend?</p> <p>(b) If so, why did the Bureau feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted?</p> <p>(c) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will the Bureau manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can the Bureau outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures?</p> <p>(d) Is the Bureau budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend?</p> <p>(e) Has the Bureau made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(f) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a:</p> <p>(i) full-time basis?</p> <p>(ii) part-time basis?</p> <p>(iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(g) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	1.1	BOM	31/07/08

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				<p>(h) What are the base and top level salaries of:</p> <p>(i) APS level 1 to 6 officers?</p> <p>(ii) Executive level officers?</p> <p>(iii) Senior Executive Services officers?</p> <p>(iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(i) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(j) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?</p> <p>(k) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(l) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(m) Does the Bureau monitor the media?</p> <p>(n) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?</p> <p>(o) Is any information provided to the Minister?</p> <p>(p) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring?</p> <p>(q) What are the APS classifications of these positions?</p> <p>(r) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?</p> <p>(s) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards?</p> <p>(t) What are the respective appointees' credentials?</p> <p>(u) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?</p> <p>(v) How long have the positions been vacant?</p> <p>(w) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio?</p> <p>(x) Has the Bureau received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests?</p> <p>(y) How many FOI requests has the Bureau received?</p> <p>(z) How many have been granted or denied?</p> <p>(aa) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?</p>			
49	67 (28 May)	Macdonald	Green zone convictions	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—That is interesting. Can I just quote the <i>Townsville Bulletin</i> of 19 October 2007. It states:</p> <p>... the then Labor Party Shadow Minister said that an elected Labor Government would be sympathetic to overturning the records of the 324 fishermen convicted for the offence.</p> <p>The then shadow minister, Senator Kerry O'Brien, said:</p> <p>This is about correcting the initial mistake and we would take the bipartisan position on that. That was then taken by the people of Northern Queensland—those who were affected by this—to mean that the Labor Party, if elected, would honour the commitment made by the shadow minister, in the same way as the then government had committed to ensure those convictions were either pardoned or overturned by legislation. Minister, could you indicate whether that pre-election promise will be honoured by your government?</p> <p>Senator Wong—As I said, I am not personally familiar with this issue. I will take the question on</p>	1.2	EXEC POLICY ADVISER	04/08/08

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				notice and seek to provide you with a more detailed response if we are able to.			
50	Written Question on Notice	Siewert	Farming/GBR	(a) What history is there of adoption of new farming practice in the target communities? (b) What farmer and producer organisations or networks have you formed partnerships with to facilitate extension and adoption? (c) Presumably there are 'hotspots' of nutrient and pesticide impacts into the Reef. Will the water quality grants funding be going to these areas? (d) How will planning and targeting process be managed and investment decisions made? (e) What research and development activities are proposed to support this program within the \$10 M reef water quality R&D program? (f) Are these funds sufficient for the R&D outcomes required? (g) Do you have sufficient data on the spatial relationship between land management practices and impacts on high value areas of the reef? (h) Do you have land management practices and farming systems for the key industries (sugar cane, horticulture, dairy, cotton and grains) of the target areas that produce the desired outcomes in terms of productivity and nutrient and chemical runoff? (i) Do you have sufficient information on the pathways to adoption of the proposed land management practices? (j) What monitoring and evaluation processes and priorities are you putting in place to assess the outcomes of the water quality grants scheme through the \$22M water quality monitoring and reporting program? (k) What existing evaluation tools and benchmarks will you be using?	1.3	MBD	31/07/08
51	Written Question on Notice	Siewert	Great Barrier Reef Program	(a) Are you targeting or assuming a reduction in dissolved nutrient load and chemical export from agricultural industries by around 50%? (b) Do you believe that this is achievable and realistic? (c) What is your evidence base for these assumptions? (d) Have you any research that shows that similar reductions in nutrient load and chemical export have been achieved by comparable land management programs elsewhere? (e) Is \$200 million sufficient to get significant environmental improvements for the Great Barrier Reef? (f) Which of the major agricultural industries contribute most to the nutrient and pesticide problems on the Reef? (g) Which areas in which catchments contribute most to the nutrient and chemical load? (h) Do you need to target or assume greater than 80% adoption of improved soil, nutrient and chemical management practices by the agricultural sectors (including sugar cane, horticulture, dairy, cotton and grains) to achieve these nutrient and chemical load targets? (i) Do you believe that this is achievable and realistic? (j) What is your evidence base for these assumptions? (k) Few industries, especially broadacre ones, achieve such ambitious adoption rates (80%) from implementing conservation measures. How confident is the government that the adoption targets stated by agricultural industries can be achieved? (l) Have you any research that shows that similar land management programs have been able to	1.3	MBD	31/07/08

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				<p>achieve such high levels of adoption elsewhere?</p> <p>(m) What commercial incentives are being proposed to encourage adoption of these new land management practices?</p> <p>(n) Do you have comparative economic studies of production systems for these industries that have been able to adopt these practices and maintain the profitability of their enterprises?</p>			
52	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	GRBMPA Administration	<p>(a) Did GBRMPA seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend?</p> <p>(b) If so, why did GBRMPA feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted?</p> <p>(c) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will GBRMPA manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can GBRMPA outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures?</p> <p>(d) Is GBRMPA budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend?</p> <p>(e) Has GBRMPA made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(f) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(g) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(h) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(i) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(j) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?</p> <p>(k) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(l) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(m) Does GBRMPA monitor the media?</p> <p>(n) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?</p> <p>(o) Is any information provided to the Minister?</p> <p>(p) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring?</p> <p>(q) What are the APS classifications of these positions?</p> <p>(r) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?</p> <p>(s) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet</p>	1.3	GBRMPA	04/08/08

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				and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (t) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (u) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (v) How long have the positions been vacant? (w) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (x) Has the GBRMPA received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (y) How many FOI requests has the GBRMPA received? (z) How many have been granted or denied? (aa) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
53	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Sydney Harbour Federation Trust Administration	(a) Did the Trust seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend? (b) If so, why did the Trust feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted? (c) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will the Trust manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can the Trust outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures? (d) Is the Trust budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend? (e) Has the Trust made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (f) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (g) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (h) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (i) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (j) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (k) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (l) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (m) Does the Trust monitor the media? (n) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?	1.2	SHFT	04/08/08

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				(o) Is any information provided to the Minister? (p) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (q) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (r) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (s) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (t) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (u) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (v) How long have the positions been vacant? (w) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (x) Has the Trust received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (y) How many FOI requests has the Trust received? (z) How many have been granted or denied? (aa) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
54	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Office of Supervising Scientists Administration	(a) Did the Office seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend? (b) If so, why did the Office feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted? (c) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will the Office manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can the Office outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures? (d) Is the Office budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend? (e) Has the Office made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (f) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (g) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (h) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (i) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (j) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?	1.5	SSD	18/07/08

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				(k) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (l) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (m) Does the Office monitor the media? (n) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (o) Is any information provided to the Minister? (p) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (q) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (r) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (s) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (t) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (u) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (v) How long have the positions been vacant? (w) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (x) Has the Office received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (y) How many FOI requests has the Commission received? (z) How many have been granted or denied? (aa) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
55	89 (28 May)	Milne	Uluru Buffel grass	<p>Senator MILNE—I am trying to establish whether there is any other mechanism for dealing with it other than physical removal and whether there is any scientific work going on. It seems to me that we are fighting a losing battle on several of these weed fronts. Is there anything promising in the scientific pipeline about being able to have a more permanent solution?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I believe there is but let me take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—In terms of your comment that as you eradicate it around the rock itself, around Uluru, it is moving further out, how fast is it moving, apart from 80 on a gravel road?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I might take that on notice and give you an accurate answer.</p>	1.2	PAD	04/08/08
56	Written Question on Notice & 90 (28 May)	Birmingham & Parry	Nations Parks – Australian National Botanical Gardens	(a) Can the Director of National Parks (DNP) provide a list of visitor numbers to the Australian National Botanic Gardens since 1996? (b) Revenue for the Gardens is derived from parking fees in the car parks. What was the revenue since 1996 (real and nominal, if available)? (c) Has the Director issued traffic infringements for cars parked without paying for parking? How many infringement officers are employed for this purpose? (d) When special events are held at the Gardens, cars often park outside the Gardens due invariably to the lack of available space. Has any study been undertaken to determine the effectiveness or otherwise of paid parking at the Gardens? (e) What are the key issues impacting upon the Gardens? (f) When is the water recycling project due for completion? (g) What is the water saving strategy? What problems is the Director facing in developing a water	1.2	PAD	30/07/08

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				<p>saving strategy, and in the implementation of the project? Are local suppliers engaged?</p> <p>(h) Did the Director seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend?</p> <p>(i) If so, why did the Director feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted?</p> <p>(j) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will the Director manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can the Director outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures?</p> <p>(k) Is the Director budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend?</p>			
57	90 (28 May)	Parry	Australian National Botanical Gardens	<p>Senator PARRY—Just going back to the car parking issue of infringement notices and monitoring or policing of that, how does that contract system work? Do you get any revenue from the contract system?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—We get the parking revenue from it minus the costs of administering it.</p> <p>Senator PARRY—So is there a net loss or gain?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—There is a net gain.</p> <p>Senator PARRY—A significant net gain?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I had better take that on notice in terms of the specifics.</p>	1.2	PAD	04/08/08
58	91 (28 May)	Lundy	Australian National Botanical Gardens	<p>Senator LUNDY—And how much of the Australian National Botanic Gardens' resources are applied for the parts you are responsible for in that partnership with CSIRO? I am happy for you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I might take it on notice...</p>	1.2	PAD	28/07/08
59	91 (28 May)	Lundy	Virtual herbarium and online initiative	<p>Senator LUNDY—Could you also take on notice to provide the committee with information about the virtual herbarium and the online initiative? I was particularly interested in that and the role that it plays in drawing together the national collection and making it searchable.</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I would be pleased to.</p>	1.2	PAD	28/07/08
60	92 (28 May)	Lundy	National Landscapes partnership with Tourism Aust	<p>Senator LUNDY—Thank you very much, Minister. Could I also ask for some more information about the National Landscapes partnership with Tourism Australia. This is a more general question now. What does that involve and what resources does it allow you to access in Tourism Australia, or what is the combined effort constituted from? ...</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—We jointly chair a reference committee with Tourism Australia that consults with regional players and then assesses proposals for taking things forward, which then leads into Tourism Australia funding the next steps. Tourism Australia would probably be the best, but I am more than happy to provide you with written material if you would like some.</p>	1.2	PAD	28/07/08
61	93 (28 May)	Johnston	Bimbimbie Wildlife Park	<p>Senator JOHNSTON—...What is the plan with respect to the Bimbimbie community wildlife park from a Commonwealth perspective? How much have we expended on it to this point in time? Has in fact that expenditure been determined and why was it determined?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I may be confusing it with another purchase in recent years called Bimbowrie but, if it is a Victorian park, Victoria will be responsible for it and not us. But I will take the question on notice and get back to you.</p>	1.2	PAD	04/08/08
62	Written Questions	Birmingham	Parks Administration	<p>(a) Has the Director made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister?</p>	1.2	PAD	28/07/08

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	on Notice			<p>If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(d) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) (iii)Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?</p> <p>(g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(i) Does the Director monitor the media?</p> <p>(j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?</p> <p>(k) Is any information provided to the Minister?</p> <p>(l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring?</p> <p>(m) What are the APS classifications of these positions?</p> <p>(n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?</p> <p>(o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards?</p> <p>(p) What are the respective appointees' credentials?</p> <p>(q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?</p> <p>(r) How long have the positions been vacant?</p> <p>(s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio?</p> <p>(t) Has the Director received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests?</p> <p>(u) How many FOI requests has the Director received?</p> <p>(v) How many have been granted or denied?</p> <p>(w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?</p>			
63	94 (28 May)	Birmingham	Green Loans New	<p>Senator Wong—Can I just say that we will endeavour to assist to whatever extent we can, but these are essentially questions that go to modelling assumptions underpinning budget figures. I have been on that side of the table in quite a number of estimates where ministers in the Howard government have refused to release such assumptions. We can indicate to you the parameters of the measure. We can indicate to you the funding profile that Mr Carter has provided you with, but some of the detailed</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08

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				<p>assumptions we may not be able to provide.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Certainly, Minister. That is fine. What is the maximum period in which to repay the loans?</p> <p>Senator Wong—As I understand it—and I will check with Mr Carter, Senator—I do not believe that the guidelines for this measure have as yet been released. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr Carter—That is correct.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—If you are budgeting \$300 million as a subsidy, there must be some budgeting idea of how quickly loans will be repaid as well. Whilst I understand that it goes to the modelling as to what the average period of time to repay those loans may be, knowing what the maximum period of time is would seem to be a fairly fundamental part of the program.</p> <p>Senator ALLISON—You would probably be able to work it out if you did the mathematics and if you took the time to do it, so I am not sure why it is a state secret.</p> <p>Senator Wong—It is not a state secret. I am not sure I said that.</p> <p>Senator KEMP—It is like election policies: they are actually state secrets.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I think they are on the internet and were traversed fairly carefully during the election campaign. As the person who was national campaigns spokesperson, Senator, I can tell you there was a lot of scrutiny of the party’s policies leading up to the election, as I am sure you are aware.</p> <p>Senator KEMP—Well, Senator Wong, I have to tell you it is amazing what we are finding.</p> <p>Senator Wong—We will see if Mr Carter can assist.</p> <p>Mr Carter—I will have to take that on notice. I do not have those calculations with me.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—You do not have the calculations with you. You do not know what the maximum time frame in which to repay the loans of up to \$10,000 is?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I do not have those calculations with me, Senator. I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—That one is not a calculation. Are you loaning people \$10,000 for one year, two years, five years, 10 years, intergenerationally?</p> <p>Mr Carter—Clearly when we are working through the design and the guidelines of these, which are yet to be submitted to the minister, we would provide a number of options around that. Some of it also depends on the way in which the loans will be provided and negotiations and discussions with delivery providers of them.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Minister, I understand that there are a lot of technicalities to the department of environment suddenly becoming a small loans bank, but I would have thought the fundamentals of this program were at least how much you are going to loan—you say up to \$10,000—how it is going to be repaid and over what time frame it is going to be repaid. There might be a lot of other details to be worked out, but you are telling me that, as yet, the government has no idea to actually over what time frame this funding is going to be repaid?</p> <p>Senator Wong—Mr Carter may be able to assist you.</p> <p>Mr Carter—Senator, at the moment we are working on a maximum loan period of up to five years with a subsidy paid up-front to a financial institution. But, as I have indicated, we are still working through the detail of the guidelines and the delivery mechanism at the moment, so we have not come to a final decision or advised the minister on the aspects of that.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Thank you, Mr Carter. That was a bit harder to get to than it needed to</p>			

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				<p>be. I appreciate that it is not locked in concrete but it is five years that you are currently working to as the maximum loan period. What type of interest rate will be applied to the green loans?</p> <p>Senator Wong—Senator, I think the difficulty we have here is that this is a budget decision and funding has been allocated but the government has not yet released the guidelines for this program, and a great many of these questions do go to guidelines which as yet, as I understand from Mr Carter's last answer, have not gone to the minister for approval. So it is somewhat difficult for us to indicate what the government's decision is on that when that decision has not yet been made. So we will endeavour to answer your questions as best we can, but some of these issues go directly to the determination of the guidelines which has, as yet, not occurred. Can I say that it is not unusual—and I am sure those at the table who have been ministers know this—for governments to announce funding measures within budgets and then deal with detailed guidelines post budget announcement, and that is a normal process of government.</p>			
64	100 (28 May)	Birmingham	Green Loans	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—We are not talking about issues that are to be negotiated with the financial providers. We are again getting back to some of the core issues here of the program. Who is going to be eligible is a decision for the government, not a decision for negotiation with financial providers.</p> <p>Senator Wong—Yes, and Mr Carter has indicated to you that he wants to check and get back to you. I understand that is essentially a request to take the question on notice. He is entitled to do that. I also indicate that I do not have the document here, so we will take that question on notice and provide the committee with an answer on notice.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
65	101 (28 May)	Birmingham	Green Loans	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What is your estimate of the cost per household associated with a maximum loan?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I do not have that number on me. I could take that on notice as to some of the detail.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
66	102 (28 May)	Allison	Green Loans	<p>Senator ALLISON—So if you could only pay \$300 a year you would not be entitled to borrow \$10,000? Is that what you are saying?</p> <p>Mr Carter—It is really around the affordability of the loan and not lending households more than they can afford to pay. But I think we would probably need to take that on notice and provide you with some more detail of the case studies.</p> <p>Senator ALLISON—If you can tell us what a \$300 payment per year would buy you by way of the total amount of the loan, that might be useful.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
67	102 (28 May)	Milne	Green Loans	<p>Senator MILNE—In relation to this, what level of gross household income is the basis on which you would make an assumption about households below that level that are not likely to take up the loan? Is there any modelling, any research, any papers of any kind that you have done that will tell you the level below which people will not take up this option?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I am unaware of that. I would have to take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—Do you know if there was any research at all done of barriers to the take-up of this loan in terms of gross household income?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I am unaware of that. I would have to take that on notice and examine it.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—Because from where we are sitting, it looks like this is a very cobbled together policy that has no policy research backing at all, but I would be very keen to see what you can provide in terms of the modelling, the research—anything behind it. Given the current credit squeeze, given what people are saying about mortgage stress, given the amount of credit people have now</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08

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				<p>racked up on their credit cards, what do you think the likelihood is of working families being able to access these loans?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I would be speculating and offering an opinion on that, so I could not go there.</p> <p>Senator MILNE—But surely that is the whole point of this. The press release from the minister says, ‘This is designed for working families.’ Surely you must be able to tell us which working families—the research, the modelling, anything you have done—are going to have a barrier. At what level is that barrier? I find it extraordinary that you cannot tell us that.</p> <p>Senator Wong—Mr Carter has quite properly said that it is not appropriate for him to offer an opinion to you. You are entitled to your opinion and you can say what you wish to say, either in this forum or in the parliament or on the radio, but he is a public servant. It is not appropriate for him to offer an opinion about the policy.</p> <p>We have indicated that we would take on notice your question about modelling because Mr Carter is unable to provide any information on that. But I would say this: you may have your own view about this policy design, but this is a measure which is seeking to assist households to improve the energy and water efficiency of their homes. We believe as a government that these sorts of measures, to build on the responsible activities and the responsible behaviour that Australians have already shown when it comes to reducing their impact on the environment, are appropriate things for the government to do. We think this is important. This is also an election commitment that we went to the election with and this budget implements that commitment.</p>			
68	103 (28 May)	Allison	Green Loans	<p>Senator ALLISON—Could I ask a question about the 15 million tonnes of greenhouse emissions that this is anticipated to save over the scheme’s lifetime. Is it possible to get a breakdown of the assumption behind that?...I am looking at the election platform document which says: Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 15 million tonnes over the scheme’s lifetime. This is equivalent to taking around 4 million cars off the road for a year, or planting more than 15 million trees.</p> <p>Mr Carter—I would have to take that on notice to see how that was calculated. ...</p> <p>Senator ALLISON—But you must have made some assumptions about how many water tanks and how many PVs and so on.</p> <p>Mr Carter—There would have been assumptions behind that number and I will take that on notice.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
69	103 (28 May)	Birmingham	Green Loans	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—You have appropriated funds across five years. You have got a target of 200,000 households across five years. I would have thought that, to get to that 200,000 households across five years, with funds appropriated across each of those years, there might be some breakdown of targets per annum.</p> <p>Mr Carter—I would have to take that on notice and provide that to you.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
70	104 (28 May)	Birmingham	Green Loans	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Will you look into whether there is any research to justify the particular \$250,000 figure?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I am happy to do that...</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
71	106 (28 May)	Johnston	Green Loans	<p>Senator JOHNSTON—It is an election policy from the ALP, but does it have any greater genesis than that? Is there a model somewhere around the world or is anyone else doing this?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I am unaware of that. I can take that on notice and provide advice on it.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
72	106 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Green Loans	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—On a personal loan, unsecured, the interest rate would be about 15 per cent commercially. The government is promoting this as a low interest rate, which I think I read</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08

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				<p>somewhere was 2½ per cent. That means the Commonwealth is going to be subsidising the commercial lender to a figure of 13-odd per cent. Is that how it will work?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I think that is something that is really subject to the negotiations with financial institutions.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—The financial institution will not be lending at less than 15 per cent unsecured.</p> <p>Mr Carter—I do not have an answer to that. I will have to take that on notice.</p>			
73	108 (28 May)	Birmingham	Green Loans	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Yes, Chair. Minister, what advice has Treasury provided in regard to the costing of this policy?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will have to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Have concerns been expressed within government that the 200,000 commitment in your policy, which has now been shifted to ‘up to 200,000’, is unachievable?</p> <p>Senator Wong—First, the phrasing I read out was from a budget document, so I want to be clear that we have been very up-front about that.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—The phrase that I read out was from a Labor Party policy document.</p> <p>Senator Wong—Senator Macdonald, you may laugh—</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Who is laughing?</p> <p>Senator Wong—but it might be helpful if you actually read the document.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—This is a policy and you do not know what it says.</p> <p>Senator Wong—In terms of the question as to other departments’ inputs, I would say two things. First, I will take that on notice. Obviously I cannot speak for other departments or other portfolios.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—But you can speak for the Labor Party.</p> <p>Senator Wong—Second, I would make the point that obviously these matters were considered in the budget process. There has been a budget decision made and the budget has been announced. We have gone through, in quite considerable detail, the work that is being done on this commitment. Madam Chair, we are happy to sit here and answer questions all night about this, if that is what the committee really wants, but I am not sure we can provide much further information.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
74	111 (28 May)	Milne	Green Loans	<p>Senator MILNE—Can I take you to the Alternative Technology Association survey that you have just mentioned. What did it say about the household income at which people take up this rebate?</p> <p>Mr Carter—I do not have that information on hand. I will have to take on notice what that report indicated.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
75	115 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Solar Cities	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Someone must have done the figure which was the subject of Senator Birmingham’s question. If it was not capped, what was your projection of what it would have got to? You must have had some estimate of it.</p> <p>Mr Borthwick—Mr Carter indicated the level it was running at. We would have to go back and take that on notice, but it would have well exceeded the amount of money that parliament would have appropriated.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
76	117 (28 May)	Birmingham	Solar Cities (Garrett Ref ECA 131)	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Does the government still meet with the PV Directorate?</p> <p>Mr Carter—My understanding is that the staff in that area do continue to meet with the PV Directorate. I do not know when the last meeting was. I can provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—So there has been no official communication with the PV Directorate or the government’s usual communication channels either before or indeed even since this</p>	1.1	ICED	15/08/08

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				announcement? Mr Carter —Not to this point but I will take on notice when the next meeting of the PV Directorate is. ... Senator Wong —Mr Carter can answer in terms of the department. Regarding Mr Garrett’s office, I would have to take on notice what meetings have or have not occurred or are intended to occur.			
77	120 (28 May) 133	Allison Birmingham	Solar Cities	Mr Carter —... I can take on notice that you would like to see the full dataset of both applications and installations over that period so that you can examine that data... Senator ALLISON —Can you give us month-by-month figures that show the application rates and, alongside those, the installation rates, so that we can get a picture of the trends for both? ... Senator Wong —So you want the data from July till the budget? Senator ALLISON —Yes.	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
78	121 (28 May)	Allison	Solar Cities	Senator ALLISON —Mr Carter, what do you understand to be the megawatt capacity of solar PV units today, or whenever you have the most recent figures? Mr Carter —I do not think I have that figure with me. Senator ALLISON —Fifty-eight or 60 wouldn’t be too far off the mark, would it? Mr Carter —I would have to get that figure for you. I do not have it.	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
79	122 (28 May)	Allison	Solar Cities	Senator ALLISON —To be clear, by the end of this measure, which is 2012, do we have a figure on what, as part of this measure, this will deliver by way of megawatt capacity? Mr Carter —I do not think I have the estimate of capacity in megawatt terms with me. I will have to get that for you. Senator ALLISON —Have you had a chance to compare Australia’s megawatt capacity with some of the other countries around the world that regard solar PV units as a significant subset of their renewable energy targets? Mr Carter —I have not done that comparison. I am sure that there is data available on what the comparison is with other countries. Senator ALLISON —You do not know where Australia rates per capita or as a country overall in terms of capacity?	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
80	123 (28 May)	Allison	Solar Cities	Senator ALLISON —...We do not know yet what the actual drop-off will be, but do you have a figure beyond which you will say it is time to review and change the threshold? For instance, if we are running at 500 a month and that is the norm, if it comes back to 200 will you then revisit the question of the threshold? Senator Wong —All I can go back to, and I am happy to take it on notice, is that I understand that the Prime Minister has stated that the government will closely monitor the demand for this program. I am not aware, nor are the officers at the table, of any further announcement on the details of that by the government. ... Senator ALLISON —The purpose of the monitoring? Senator Wong —I do not have anything further I can add on this, Senator Allison. I can take it on notice...	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
81	127 (28 May)	Ian Macdonald	Solar Cities	Senator IAN MACDONALD —Minister, I do not expect you to have this at present but on notice can you assess for me, on the number of solar panel installations that were projected —Mr Carter gave us evidence of some figures I think over the last three months and some projected figures which you projected through to make your government believe you could not afford it— the amount of	1.1	ICED	04/08/08

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				<p>carbon that would have been saved if all of those people who were projected to have applied for this rebate had achieved it and installed the solar panel? What I am trying to get, just in case I am not being clear— ...</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—What I am trying to get to is the amount of carbon emissions that could have been saved for the government had this measure not been introduced.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will take that on notice. What you are asking is evidence of a policy decision not taken, so I am not sure to what extent you could be assisted. I am not sure to what extent there would be information that essentially models a policy decision that was not taken. I would have thought that would be difficult. I would make the point again that this measure under the budget brings forward expenditure from a five-year profile to a three-year profile, so the total number of rebates remains the same but the rate of take-up is quicker than was previously budgeted for—yes, means-tested—so logically one would assume that if you have the same number of rebates then you are going to have the same abatement outcome.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Minister, if you are not prepared to do it, we can do it ourselves, as long as you can give us the technical advice on what a solar panel would, on average, save in electricity and therefore greenhouse gas emissions. ...</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Minister, can you get me those details on notice? I can read Mr Carter's forward assessments.</p> <p>Senator Wong—Which forward assessments are you referring to?</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—I have those. Don't worry about those! What I am asking you for now is an assessment of what a solar panel, on average, would save in greenhouse gas emissions. I know you have that sort of detail available.</p> <p>Senator Wong—We will take that on notice and will provide it if we are able to...</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—I am talking about an average solar panel, the sort that you have been giving the subsidies for. If you can just give me the figure of what that would in, say, a year save in greenhouse gas or carbon emissions...</p> <p>Senator Wong—I understand from Mr Carter we can provide that on notice.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Thank you very much. Mr Carter, could you take it one step further and, using the figures you have already given us, give us a combined table on where it might have got to?</p>			
82	128 (28 May)	Milne	Hot water rebate	<p>Senator MILNE—... 'Why is it that the hot water rebate only applies to new systems and does not apply to a retrofit with evacuated tubes which gives you that high level of efficiency?' I would like to know whether it has been an oversight in the application of that and whether you are prepared to review the rebate on the basis that, in a cold climate, an evacuated tube does give you a higher level of efficiency?</p> <p>Mr Carter—... But I might take that on notice because it is clearly an issue that we would like to explore further.</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08
83	137 (28 May)	Birmingham	Solar industry - compensation	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—...Minister, in the discussions that Minister Garrett has had with the industry, has the issue of compensation been raised?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I would have to take that question on notice.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Were there any departmental officials present with the minister when he met with industry?</p>	1.1	ICED	04/08/08

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				Senator Wong —I do not know whether there were...I will have to take that on notice.			
84	5 (29 May)	Siewert	Caring for Our Country – programs and investments	Senator SIEWERT —I am aware that we are going to be running short of time, but could you provide us with a list of who is on the expert panel? Ms Rankin —There is not a formal expert panel yet, but I am certainly happy to provide you with a list of who we have consulted with to date.	1.2	NRMPD	31/07/08
85	13 (29 May)	Birmingham	Caring for Our Country – Funding of Programs-	Senator BIRMINGHAM —Right. So if we take away those retained components, how much is left? Ms Rankin —I do not have that figure with me, but the point is that all of those components are part of the program. The program encompasses all of those election commitments and is being rolled out in a way that people have access to that money. So I think that it is wrong to potentially imply that that funding is not part of the program and is not available for spending through the program to a range of groups like regional bodies or any other community groups. Senator BIRMINGHAM —I understand you do not have the figure with you, Ms Rankin, but nonetheless could you please undertake to provide the figure of how much is committed to those ongoing programs—we have detailed all of the other election commitment related ones—and then what the remaining figures under forward estimates for the program are? Ms Rankin —I can do that.	1.2	NRMPD	31/07/08
86	17 (29 May)	Siewert	Caring for Our Country – Funding of Programs	Senator SIEWERT —The diagram that I talked about earlier—and Senator Birmingham touched on before—about how all the different programs are fitting together: if you have that or have prepared that in of the future, that would be extremely useful, so we get an idea where all the money and programs fit in. That would be useful. Ms Rankin —I will get somebody creative to design something for us.	1.2	NRMPD	28/07/08
87	17 (29 May)	Siewert	Green Vouchers for Schools – Applications	Senator BIRMINGHAM —How many were budgeted for for this financial year? Ms Colreavy —I am afraid that I cannot tell you that. We must have had a notional number in mind, but I am afraid I do not have that information. I can find it out for you.	1.2	NRMPD	31/07/08
88	Written Questions on Notice	Abetz	Tamar Estuary	(a) What funds has the Australian Government committed in the past to the Tamar River Estuary since 1996? Please itemise. (b) Do any of these funds remain to be expended? Please detail. (c) If any funds remain, when do they expire? (d) Who made the decision not to proceed with funding for the \$200,000 Tamar River siltation study? (e) Who was consulted in making this decision? (f) Does the Australian Government fund siltation studies and works in other parts of Australia? Please list.	1.2	NRMPD	31/07/08
89	19 (29 May)	Birmingham	Community Water Grants	Senator BIRMINGHAM —To be very clear, what programs can the Lockleys Bowling Club or the Klemzig footy club actually apply for that will have some equivalence to what they could have accessed under Community Water grants? Senator Wong —We are happy to take that question; I have outlined it in the broad. Obviously, outcome 3 deals with Water for the Future funding. As I have said, we have the National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative—\$250 million over six years. Senator BIRMINGHAM —What can you apply for under that? Senator Wong —You can apply for rainwater and grey water schemes. I believe it is being delivered as a rebate, from memory. We do not have officers in the room on that particular program. We are	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				happy to go through that in more detail at outcome 3, if you wish. Senator BIRMINGHAM —All I want to know, Minister, is what the maximum grant or rebate can be under that program? Senator Wong —I would have to wait for the officers to come. It may only be \$500. I will need to get some advice on the issue.			
90	Written Questions on Notice	Abetz	Caring for our Country	(a) Under the new Labor program, Caring for Our Country, can you tell me whether the NRM (Natural Resource Management) regional bodies that we have are going to be maintained in their current format? (b) Were the NRM regional bodies consulted about and told of any funding cuts under the new program prior to their implementation? (c) Have any NRM bodies made contact with the department or the Minister's office to indicate that under the new budget they will be operating under their viability threshold? (d) Does the department have any sort of estimated figure of the value of leveraged funds (from private enterprise and community groups) lost as a result of the funding cuts to NRM regional bodies? (e) Are there going to be any categories for NRM bodies to apply for funding in or will it be one general pool – all projects measured against one another? (f) Who will make the final decisions on which body gets the funding from the national pool of money? The Minister, the Department or an independent body? (g) Many projects funded through the NHT dealt with fragile ecosystems and threatened species, will there be any way of the Government making sure that these high-priority projects aren't lost in the national competitive pool? (h) Could you also inform me how many projects that were funded through NHT 1 & NHT 2 dealt with threatened species? (i) Will there be any funding arrangements in place for NRM regional bodies that engage in works over more than a 12 month period (i.e. Will there be any indication of funding for periods greater than 12 months for longer period works)?	1.2	NRMPD	04/08/08
91	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Caring for our Country	(a) What is the cost breakdown of previous programs now known as Caring for our Country (such as Landcare, Natural Heritage Trust)? (b) In relation to Green Precincts, the budget papers make reference to "high profile green precincts" and "high-profile demonstration projects". Is the profile of the projects part of the criteria for funding, or is consideration based on the delivery of outcomes in terms of water and/or energy savings?	1.2	NRMPD WG	28/07/08
92	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Farm viability	(a) Prior to the Election Shadow Environment Minister Peter Garrett told the ABC's Lateline that there needed to be a review of farm viability in Australia as a result of Climate Change? How will this government policy be implemented? (b) What in the Government's view is a viable farm and has or will the Minister or the Department be implementing any review or studies into the environmental or financial viability of farms in Australia as a result of Climate Change? Who will be heading up the review? What will be the terms of reference? Will farmers be able to make submissions to the review and how will it affected water users and farmers.		NRMPD	31/07/08
93	24	Johnson	Appointment of	Senator JOHNSTON —Mr Borthwick, has your department been consulted about the appointment	1.3	MBD	28/07/08

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	(29 May)		a Whaling Envoy	of an envoy? Mr Borthwick —Yes, we have given advice to our minister about possible envoys. Senator JOHNSTON —When were you consulted about giving that advice and when did you give the advice? Mr Borthwick —I do not recall. Senator JOHNSTON —Can you take that notice and let us know, firstly, when your department was consulted about the appointment of an envoy, given the announcement was December, and then when you responded to that to the government. Mr Borthwick —I will take that on notice.			
94	27 (29 May)	Macdonald	Whaling envoy	Senator IAN MACDONALD —Nobody asked what happened in cabinet; we just want to know if it has been to cabinet. We are not asking you what happened. Has it been to cabinet? Senator Wong —I am not sure if I can assist you there, but I will take that matter on notice. ... Senator Wong —On the issue of the question of whether or not this issue has gone to cabinet, I will take that matter on notice.	1.3	MBD	04/08/08
95	40 (29 May)	Siewert	International Whaling Commission	Senator SIEWERT —Could you provide the committee with a list of projects that are currently being undertaken under the IUCN science project? Ms Petrachenko —You want all of the IWC related science projects? Senator Wong —The IUCN, you said. Senator SIEWERT —Sorry—IWC. IUCN I get into my head—IWC. Ms Petrachenko —Australia's involvement in IWC related projects? Senator SIEWERT —Yes. Ms Petrachenko —Yes, we can. ... Senator SIEWERT —But take 'involvement' in its wide meaning, either as in research or as in provision of cash.	1.3	MBD	30/07/08
96	42 (29 May)	Birmingham	Whale Envoy	Senator BIRMINGHAM —I was not asking whether there had been an announcement. I was asking whether there was anything written down anywhere saying what this person will do. Senator Wong —The only information that I have is what I have provided you with. If there is anything further, we will provide that.	1.3	MBD	31/07/08
97	46 (29 May)	Abetz	Whale Envoy	Senator ABETZ —And I have been asking a question about whether people have been approached. The answer to that is 'yes'. Am I allowed to follow up by asking how many people have been approached? Mr Borthwick —I am unaware of how many people. (a) Senator ABETZ —Could you please take that on notice for me, so that we can get an answer to that? (b) Can you also take on notice whether when they were approached they were given any semblance of a job description? If so, is the government willing to share that job description with this committee? You will take that on notice? Mr Borthwick —Yes.	1.3	MBD	31/07/08
98	49 (29 May)	Siewert	Scientific Reference Panel – Identification of	Senator SIEWERT —Have those goals and principles been reviewed—both the south-west ones and the national ones? Have they been peer reviewed? Ms Petrachenko —They were reviewed by—I could have the terminology wrong—the scientific reference panel that was for the south-east. We got feedback from them and then revised them.	1.3	MBD	04/08/08

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			Representative Areas	Senator SIEWERT —Who was on that group? Ms Petrachenko —It was chaired by Dr Ian Pointer. I can provide you, on notice, with a list of who was on that group			
99	52 (29 May)	Abetz	Resolution to fisheries appeal - negotiations	Senator ABETZ —I have two quick questions. The minister, Mr Garrett, issued a media release on 27 February 2008, ‘Resolution to fisheries appeal welcomed’. He refers in the second paragraph to the ‘negotiated outcome’. I was wondering whether on notice I could be provided with the details of the negotiated outcome, please. Mr Cresswell —Sorry, Senator Abetz, what was the date and what was the fishery? Senator ABETZ —On 27 February 2008 the minister issued a press release, ‘Resolution to fisheries appeal welcomed’. This was about the action by the Humane Society International on the SESSF, the Southern and Eastern Scalefish and Shark Fishery. Mr Cresswell —Thank you.	1.3	MBD	04/08/08
100	53 (29 May)	Abetz	Community Coastcare	Senator ABETZ —I have some interest in that from former days. This next question comes under Caring for our Country but it relates to Community Coastcare and the priority coastal hot spots. We are provided with a list of 12 hot spots. There are two in Tasmania—the Derwent Estuary and its catchment and the Pitt Water- Orielton Lagoon Ramsar site. I am not critical of their appearance in this list, but I am wondering why the Tamar Estuary was not considered worthy for inclusion on this list. I simply ask that question on notice as well. Can I be provided with some detailed assessment and hopefully not a reference to a Labor Party website? I would like to be given some detail as to why those two areas in Tasmania were selected and the Tamar Estuary was not selected.	1.3	NRMPD	28/07/08
101	53 (29 May)	Siewert	Shark populations	Senator SIEWERT —Thank you. How much shark has been taken out of that fishery, do we know? Ms Petrachenko —I can get the answer to that in more detail on notice because we have a lot of the background information that primarily though relates to what the catches have been for the last number of years. It has not been a targeted fishery, but we have seen a huge increase in the catches.	1.3	MBD	28/07/08
102	54 (29 May)	Siewert	Shark Fisheries	Senator SIEWERT —Do we export fins? Ms Petrachenko —Yes, we do. Senator SIEWERT —Out of which fisheries? Ms Petrachenko —It would be some of the Western Australian fisheries, the Northern Territory fisheries and probably some out of Queensland and New South Wales as well. Senator SIEWERT —How much? Ms Petrachenko —I would have to take that on notice.	1.3	MBD	28/07/08
103	54 (29 May)	Siewert	Shark Fisheries - correspondence	Senator SIEWERT —Thanks. I understand—and again you may not be in a position to answer this—that a number of letters have been coming into the minister’s office about this issue. It is a significant issue of public concern in Queensland, is that correct? Ms Petrachenko —Yes, there has been some, I am told. I have not seen them myself. Senator SIEWERT —I realise that you probably cannot tell me off the top of your head, but can you provide on notice the level of concern or the number of letters that you have been getting in about it, please? Ms Petrachenko —Yes, we can.	1.3	MBD	30/07/08 Revised answer – 15/08/08
104	Written Questions	Birmingham	Biodiversity Hotspots	(a) In light of the Government’s cuts to the Biodiversity Hotspots program, what programs now exist to cover this important initiative? Why was this program cut?	1.2	MBD	04/08/08

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	on Notice			(b) Can the Department provide a list of monitored biodiversity hotspots? (c) Can the Department explain the basis upon which projects are considered 'insufficient' and considered 'suitable' for the continuation of funding? (d) Why was funding for the community wildlife park at Bimbimbie in Victoria cut?			
105	59 (29 May)	Johnson	National Heritage Listing	Senator JOHNSTON —Is it possible for you to tell me today what responses you have had with respect to the Ningaloo Reef World Heritage listing—the national heritage listing in this instance? Mr T Bailey —I do not have those numbers with me in terms of the correspondence that has come back in and it is open until I think the middle of next month for people to continue to do that. Senator JOHNSTON —It would be very helpful if you could assist me as to what sort of response you have had, because having been up there and been to a public meeting, there is a very big diversity of opinion as to both World Heritage listing and national heritage listing. I would like the opportunity for everybody to understand where the process is actually at and what the response has been to this point in time from an Australian government perspective. Could you possibly come back to me today and advise as to what responses you have had—how many? Mr T Bailey —I will not be able to clarify that today, sorry. Senator JOHNSTON —When can you clarify it? Mr T Bailey —I would have to find out. Our project people working on this piece are actually out in the field at the moment so it may take some time just for them to return and to look at that.	1.4	HD	04/08/08
106	63 (29 May)	Siewert	National Heritage – Kimberley Region – Gaffney and Cline Report	Senator SIEWERT —Okay. Could you tell me whether the federal government has a copy of the Gaffney and Cline report to the northern development task force? Mr Burnett —I do not know the answer to that question, Senator. Senator SIEWERT —Is it possible for someone to check for me, and if you have it can you table it? Mr Burnett —I can take that on notice. Senator SIEWERT —Sorry, not your Northern Australia task force; the Western Australian Northern Task Force. There are a number of Northern Australian task forces. Mr Burnett —I have not heard the name of that report before, Senator. Senator SIEWERT —Okay. Can I suggest that if you do not have it you try to get a copy. That would be appreciated?	1.4	AWD	28/07/08
107	64 (29 May)	Siewert	Dampier Archipelago – defacing or damaging of rock art	Senator SIEWERT —What are you doing for activities inside heritage listed areas? Mr Burnett —Can you just excuse me for a second, Senator? I was just checking to see whether we had any information here. We have a compliance branch that looks after and responds to any complaints or information that is received of potential offences against the EPBC Act, but we do not have any information here in relation to any allegations of unlawful activity in relation to the rock art. Senator SIEWERT —So the state government has not forwarded you any of the latest material on— Mr Burnett —Not to my knowledge, Senator. That does not mean there has not been some contact; it just means that I am not personally aware of it. Senator SIEWERT —Maybe you can take it on notice, then, and let us know if there has been. Mr Burnett —Just to clarify, the question is whether the Western Australian government has brought to our attention any incidents relating to defacing or damaging the rock art? Senator SIEWERT —Yes. Can we expand that to the state government or community members? Mr Burnett —Yes.	1.4	AWD	04/08/08
108	67	Lundy	Kingston and	Senator LUNDY —One of the residents has said that she was instructed to remove solar panels from	1.4	HD	04/08/08

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	(29 May)		Arthur's Vale Historic Area – Norfolk Island	<p>the roof because they were perceived as being outside the values of the area. Could you take that on notice and explain to the committee why that would have occurred?</p> <p>Mr Shevlin—I have no knowledge of that but we will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator LUNDY—I know, but again I undertook to ask the question.</p> <p>Mr Shevlin—It could have been a request of the Norfolk Island government rather than of any Commonwealth officials.</p> <p>Senator LUNDY—Yes.</p> <p>Mr Shevlin—I will find out and we will provide that information.</p>			
109	68 (29 May)	Macdonald	Traveston Crossing Dam	<p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Minister Wong, do not get up—because you will take it on notice, I know— but</p> <p>(a) Could you ask Mr Garrett for me what meetings he has had with the Queensland Premier or any Queensland minister regarding the Traveston Crossing Dam?</p> <p>(b) What other meetings he has had with any of the main players, if I can call them that, in the Traveston Crossing Dam debate? I read in the paper that he met with the Mary River catchment conservation group, I think it is called. If you can get for me from Mr Garrett a list of the people he has met with in Queensland in relation to the Traveston Crossing Dam, I would appreciate that.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will take that matter on notice. I am sure Mr Garrett meets with a great range of people in relation to this issue as well as others.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD—Okay, but I am particularly interested in discussions he has had with the Queensland government. As far as the Commonwealth officials are concerned, all impressions from Queensland and from that area is that it is full steam ahead by the Queensland government instrumentality masquerading as a private company that is charged with project managing the construction. I saw the other day that there is a native title claim being completed. I see there is engineering work continuing to be planned. I see there is continuing buyouts of properties not in the dam area but surrounding the dam area, all of which seems to suggest that the Queensland government presupposes that the Commonwealth's approval is a foregone conclusion.</p> <p>(c) My question was: do you have any concerns about the activity which is continuing in an area that still has not got Commonwealth approval?</p>	1.5	AWD	31/07/08
110	69 (29 May)	Abetz	Wielangta	<p>Senator ABETZ—Sorry, with great respect, I am aware of all that having been a lawyer. Time is of the essence and I do not want to be rude, but you are telling me that no further costs have been incurred since the figure of \$365,329.21 has been spent by the department?</p> <p>Mr Burnett—Senator, that is not a figure that I am familiar with.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Could you please take that on notice with, then?</p> <p>Mr Burnett—Yes.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—The department of agriculture has told me that, apart from the costs associated with the legal action, for the department's specific legal advice they have expended \$108,316.71 on this case. Can your department please provide us with the amount they have spent in the category of department-specific legal advice on this case?</p> <p>Mr Burnett—Yes, Senator. Just for clarification, the costs you are referring to are court costs?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—That is right, and the department-specific legal advice on the matter.</p> <p>Mr Burnett—Advice for which we have received a bill, Senator?</p>	1.5	AWD	28/07/08

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				<p>Senator ABETZ—Or that you have somehow costed or are able to cost internally. Take it on notice. I assume you do not necessarily have that figure. This was an answer provided I forget when, but it was a question I asked on 19 February in the agriculture portfolio that it was 50-50 between the departments. What is the final figure in relation to costs and also department-specific legal advice in this matter? As an intervener, are you able to seek costs?</p> <p>Mr Burnett—My understanding is generally no, Senator. But I will take that on notice as well. ...</p> <p>Mr Burnett—Senator, we were not a party to the special leave application in the High Court so, as far as I know, there would be no Commonwealth legal costs associated with the special leave application. We are only talking about the—</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—All right. Whatever it is, let us check it and tell me what the total cost is, please.</p> <p>Mr Burnett—All right.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Thank you very much. Did you seek any advice from the Australian Government Solicitor as to the potential for seeking costs?</p> <p>Mr Burnett—I will have to take that on notice.</p>			
111	71 (29 May)	Abetz	Clyde River – Lake Crescent, Tasmania	<p>Senator ABETZ—Proffered by the state Labor government. I am wanting to know whether or not Mr Garrett is going to be reconsidering his decision in the light of that which the state Labor government is asserting.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I can take that on notice unless the officers at the table are able to assist me. What I can say to you is that I am advised two things. First, the release of more water would have significantly increased the long-term impact on nationally listed endangered golden galaxias and the internationally important Interlaken, which is a Ramsar site, as you know.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—That is right.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I also am advised that the minister did consult with the Tasmanian government prior to this decision.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes. Since his decision, has the state government made further representations to Minister Garrett indicating to him that his decision was not soundly based?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will have to take that matter on notice.</p>	1.5	AWD	31/07/08
112	Written Questions on Notice	Abetz	Lake Crescent	<p>(a) Can the department outline the drop in water levels (in millimetres) in Lakes Crescent and Sorell if the amount of water being requested by the Clyde River Poppy Farmers was released from Lakes Crescent and Sorell?</p> <p>(b) Given that a missed one year of irrigation for the Poppy Farmers on the Clyde River will adversely affect the farming community in the area, how was the advice of the Tasmanian Government taken into account which states: "... DPIW has suggested that a missed breeding season in 2008 may not be critical to the survival of the species..."? (EPBC 2007/3865 – Release of irrigation water for Lake Crescent, Tasmania)</p> <p>(c) Will the Federal Government consider a review of this decision or referring the matter to the Tasmanian Government?</p>	1.5	AWD	28/07/08
113	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	North-South pipeline	Are you aware of concerns about the impact of the North South Pipeline project on the striped legless lizard, growling grass frog, spotted tail quoll and the matted flax lily? What is the current status of any environmental impact statements into the North South Pipeline?	1.5	AWD	04/08/08
114	Written	Abetz	Tas Devil facial	(a) How much money has been spent, or has been promised to be spent on the devil facial tumour,	1.5	AWD	31/07/08

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	(29 May)			<p>what you would like taken on notice, I am sure the department can ensure that the appropriate officers respond.</p> <p>Senator BUSHBY—The bottom line with the Tamar silt problem is that I am trying to find whether there is some way that we can move it forward because it is a genuine problem that needs to be addressed and it is beyond the capabilities of the Launceston City Council to do it on their own. The state government does not appear to be prepared to match. There are a number of programs. What I would like taken on notice is if anybody can give us any assistance as to the direction we can go to advance the addressing of the problem. I am not trying to score any political points with this one; I just want to get the problem fixed.</p> <p>Senator Wong—We are happy to do that.</p>			
122	90 (29 May)	Birmingham	Murray-darling basin reform	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Minister, I turn to clause 13 of the MOU. If all or any basin state ministers disagree with the cap or other relevant parts of the basin plan, these matters would be referred back to the authority for reappraisal. Will such disagreements by states be made public?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I might have to take that on notice. I do not recall a clause in the MOU which talks about whether or not that would be made public...</p>	3.1	WG	04/08/08
123	100 (29 May)	Bernardi	Illegal diversion of water	<p>Senator BERNARDI—I guess it goes to the urgency of this. When have you sought to establish what the New South Wales government has or has not done with regard to these—</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will have to take that on notice. I do not have—</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
124	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Water Entitlements	<p>(a) How many Government bodies, including state government and statutory bodies, are currently in the markets or have funding set aside to buy back water entitlements? Please provide a breakdown of the funding available to each organisation to buy back water entitlements?</p> <p>(b) How is the Federal Government coordinating its purchases of water entitlements with these other organisations?</p> <p>(c) Did the Government target any particular valleys or regions in its recently completed \$50 million water entitlement buyback tender?</p> <p>(d) The Minister has announced the Government purchased 35 Gigalitres of entitlement with its \$50 million water entitlement buyback tender. Please provide a break down in megalitres of how much was high security water, how much was general security and provide a breakdown in megalitres from which valley/irrigation districts the water entitlements were purchased and the price paid per megalitre.</p> <p>(e) What is the water allocation attached to each license purchased during the \$50 million tender for this water year and the coming water year?</p> <p>(f) How much water will flow to the Lower Lakes this year from water entitlements purchased under the \$50 million tender? How much will flow in the next year to the Lower Lakes area of the basin?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
125	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Murray Darling Basin	<p>(a) What is the Government doing to provide <u>immediate</u> relief to irrigators, communities, wetlands and the Lower Lakes, all of whom are suffering an unprecedented crisis because of the drought gripping the Murray-Darling Basin?</p> <p>(b) Given the Minister conceded in the Sydney Morning Herald that dams and water storage levels across the Murray-Darling are so low that "it may be some time before the water is able to be delivered", will the Government be offering any additional assistance to farmers, irrigators and communities who are suffering in some cases their sixth year of zero or very low allocations?</p>	3.1	WG	08/10/08

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				<p>(c) Given the Minister conceded in the Sydney Morning Herald that dams and water storage levels across the Murray-Darling are so low that "it may be some time before the water is able to be delivered", will the Government be offering any additional assistance to the environment including wetlands and the Lower Lakes?</p> <p>(d) How will the Government proceed with its water entitlement buybacks over the next four years? Will it continue to offer tenders?</p> <p>(e) How much funding has been allocated for water entitlement buybacks over the next four financial years? Please provide a breakdown for each financial year.</p> <p>(f) Will the Government consider retiring any water entitlements held by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder?</p> <p>(g) Will the Government sell or trade any water entitlement licences held by the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder?</p> <p>(h) How much permanent water is traded in the Murray-Darling Basin annually (average over the past 10 years)? Please provide a breakdown of the types of water entitlements traded i.e. high security, general security etc</p> <p>(i) Will the Government consider any compulsory acquisition of water entitlements over the next four financial years?</p>			
126	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Structural Adjustment	<p>(a) Under the original National Plan for Water Security, which was supported by the Labor Party, was \$1.5 billion set aside for water entitlement buybacks and \$1.5 billion for structural adjustments?</p> <p>(b) How much has been allocated to the Water for the Future – Sustainable Rural Use and Infrastructure fund for each of financial years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11, 2011-12 and 2012-13?</p> <p>(c) Does the Government still have a structural adjustment package to help struggling communities adjust to the permanent loss of water under the new Basin-wide cap?</p> <p>(d) How much has been set aside for structural adjustments?</p> <p>(e) Has the \$1.5 billion structural adjustment program for communities affected by the loss of their irrigation industries been cut? If not, how much will be made available and when?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
127	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	Water Efficiency	<p>(a) The Minister's media release of 29 April 2008 states a further \$5.8 billion will be available under the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure program for key rural water projects that help secure a long term sustainable future for irrigation regions and return water to the rivers. Is it still the Government's intention to provide \$3.130 billion for delivering system efficiency gains; \$1.635 billion on-farm efficiency program; \$620 million for metering, monitoring and accounting; and \$500 million for improving river operations and storage?</p> <p>(b) Budget Related Paper NO. 1.6 states, on page 58, that in 2007-08 Estimated Actual \$122,001 million will be spent this financial year on Water for the Future – Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure. Please provide a breakdown of each project on which this funding has been spent, which electorates they are in, and what the water savings are estimated to be?</p> <p>(c) In what electorates are the nine 'on-farm efficiency pilot projects' which have been invited to submit more information located? Please provide a brief outline of each project, estimated cost, estimated water saving and when they will be funded?</p> <p>(d) Is it still the Government's intention to invest \$1.635 billion in 'on-farm efficiencies'? If not,</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				<p>why not and how much are they going to invest?</p> <p>(e) Is the Government maintaining the principle established by the former government that all irrigation modernising projects such as the on-farm and in system investments would share the water savings achieved 50:50 between irrigators and the Government? If not, what is the Government's position on sharing water savings between the Government and irrigators</p>			
128	Written Question on Notice	Nash	Lower Lakes Murray-Darling Basin	<p>(a) Is it not a fact that even if you bought \$3.1 billion of water entitlements last week there would be no increased flows to the Lower Lakes, because there is no or very low allocation attached to water entitlements because of the drought, extremely low major storage levels and the Drought Contingency Measures currently in place in the Murray Darling Basin?</p> <p>(b) Why has the Government done nothing to dispel the myths and impression given by some environmentalists and academics that buying back billions of dollars of water entitlements from irrigators will result in immediate relief for wetlands and the Lower Lakes?</p> <p>(c) Is it not a fact that simply transferring bought water entitlements from irrigators to the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder is perpetuating the over-allocation of the Murray Darling Basin system? Why is the government refusing to retire any of those water entitlements out of the system?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
129	Written Questions on Notice	Nash	Water Entitlements	<p>I refer you to the ABC TV's Land Line program where it quoted findings by WaterFinds Tom Rooney; "This week, Senator Wong restated the COAG pledge to buy just over \$3 billion worth of entitlements, putting the water back into river flows. With around 100 gigs traded in a year, that splash would buy the tradable amount every year for over a decade."</p> <p>(a) Is the figure of 100 gigs traded every year an accurate figure? How much water entitlements does the Government expect to buy back with the \$3.1 billion allocated for this purpose?</p> <p>(b) Isn't it a fact that the Federal Government would have to buy every megalitre of water traded by willing sellers, every year for the next fifteen years to fulfill its stated aim of purchasing 1500 gicalitres?</p> <p>(c) Will you rule out any compulsory acquisition of water entitlements over the next four financial years?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
130	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Stakeholder Consultative Committee/Water Entitlements	<p>(a) In a Media Release dated 20th May, 2008; 'Senator Wong said she was aware of concerns being raised by some Basin communities in relation to the water purchase program.' What were the concerns that were raised with the Minister by individuals and organisations about its recent \$50 million water entitlement buyback?</p> <p>(b) What are the terms of reference for the Stakeholder Consultative Committee which was announced by the Minister to review the \$50 million water entitlement buy back tender?</p> <p>(c) Has the Department done any social or economic impact studies on the affect of buying water entitlements has on regional and rural communities? Can you table those studies and make them public? If not, why not?</p> <p>(d) Will the Stakeholder Consultative Committee be looking at the social and economic consequences of large water entitlement buy backs on regional and rural communities in the Murray Darling Basin?</p> <p>(e) Did the Minister give a personal undertaking to the Chair of the National Farmers Federation's Water Taskforce, Mr Laurie Arthur 'that the next stage of the \$3 billion buyback will be more</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				<p>open.'</p> <p>(f) Are Mr Arthur's comments on ABC radio that "We have an undertaking from the minister that, providing it doesn't breach an commercial in confidence, she'll provide as much information as she can, and also look at putting it on registers," correct?</p> <p>(g) How will the register work? What information will the Minister put on the register? Will the information be available in 'real time'? Who would be able to access the register?</p>			
131	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Establishment of Murray Darling Basin Authority	<p>In a Media release on the 20 May 2008 titled STAKEHOLDERS TO EVALUATE MURRAY DARLING WATER PURCHASE – the Minister stated “A further \$5.8 billion will be invested in sustainable irrigation infrastructure and projects to help communities make an early adjustment to a new Basin-wide cap on water use.”</p> <p>(a) Is it a fact that the Water Act 2007 which came into force on the 3rd of March 2008 establishes an independent Murray-Darling Basin Authority with the functions and powers, including enforcement powers, needed to ensure that Basin water resources are managed in an integrated and sustainable way?</p> <p>(b) Why has the Minister failed to appoint any members to the Murray-Darling Authority?</p> <p>(c) If members had been appointed following the Water Act 2007 coming into force on 3 March 2008 what, if anything, would have prevented the Murray-Darling Basin Authority from commencing work on the Basin Plan?</p> <p>(d) Is it not a fact that the Minister had the power six months ago to being preparing a Basin Plan for adoption by the Minister, including setting sustainable limits on water that can be taken from surface and groundwater systems across the Basin; develop a water rights information service which facilitates water trading across the Murray-Darling Basin; being measuring and monitoring water resources in the Basin?</p> <p>(e) How is the Minister assessing the buyback of water entitlements in the absence of a Basin Plan?</p> <p>(f) Why has the Minister delayed the vital development of a new Basin-wide cap?</p> <p>(g) How will the old roles of the Murray-Darling Basin Commission be amalgamated within the new Authority?</p> <p>(h) How can the Minister buy back water entitlements to address over-allocation in the Basin when she has not even begun the work needed to develop a new Basin-wide cap despite having the power to do so?</p> <p>(i) Is it not a fact that given the complicated nature of the work involved in set a new valley by valley and Basin-wide cap, the work will take up to two years to complete? Why has the Minister delayed this valuable work by at least twelve months?</p> <p>(j) When will the Government begin work on the new Basin-wide cap and when will interested parties be able to make submissions?</p> <p>(k) What will be the processes involved in drawing up the new Basin-wide cap?</p> <p>(l) How much funding has been set aside for this work?</p> <p>(m) How much funding has been set aside for the new Murray Darling Basin Authority which is to include the Murray Darling Basin Commission?</p> <p>(n) How will the new Murray Darling Basin Authority work? What will be its role and responsibilities?</p> <p>(o) Will State Governments continue to provide funding for the new Murray Darling Basin</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				Authority as they previously did for the Murray Darling Basin Commission? (p) Will the states still have a veto right as they currently do on the Murray Darling Basin Commission within the new Murray Darling Basin Authority?			
132	Written Questions on Notice	Nash	Structural Adjustment	In a Media Release on the 29 April 2008 titled RUDD GOVERNMENT TO INVEST \$12.9 BILLION IN WATER – it states; ‘Senator Wong said \$3.1 billion will be set aside to purchase water to put back in Murray Darling Basin waterways.’ Is it not a fact that under the original National Plan for Water Security, which was supported by the Labor Party, \$1.5 billion was set aside for water entitlement buybacks and \$1.5 billion for structural adjustments? (a) How much has been allocated to the Water for the Future – Sustainable Rural Use and Infrastructure fund for each of the following financial year; 08-9, 09-10, 10-11, 11-12, and 12-13? (b) Does the Government still have a structural adjustment package to help struggling communities adjust to the permanent loss of water under the new Basin-wide cap? (c) How much has been set aside for structural adjustments? (d) Has the \$1.5 billion structural adjustment program for communities which will be devastated by the loss of their irrigation industries been cut? If not how much will be made available and when? (e) The Minister’s Media Release on the 29 th of April 2008 states a further \$5.8 billion will be available under the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure program for key rural water projects that help secure a long term sustainable future for irrigation regions and return water to the rivers, is it still the Government’s intention to provide \$3.130 billion for delivering system efficiency gains; \$1.635 billion on-farm efficiency program \$620 million for metering, monitoring and accounting and \$500 million for improving river operations and storage? (f) Budget Related Paper NO.1.6, page 58 states that in 2007-08 Estimated Actual; \$122,001 million will be spent this financial year on Water for the Future – Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure; please provide a breakdown of each project this funding was spent on, which electorate it was in, and what the water savings are estimate to be?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
133	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Election Commitments	(a) Is the Document titled ‘ <i>Labor’s national plan to tackle the water crisis. Election 2007. Policy Document Kevin Rudd MP Federal Labor Leader Anthony Albanese MP Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Water November 2007,</i> ’ which was ‘ <i>Authorised and Printed by T. Gartrell, 161 London Circuit, Canberra City ACT 2600.</i> ’ official Labor Party policy? (b) Is it now Government policy (c) Are there \$1.017 billion of pre-election promises in this document, which were to have been funded from the \$5.8 billion infrastructure component of the \$10 billion National Plan for Water Security now known as the Water for the Future program? If not, how much is dollar the value of these promises? (d) Please provide an electorate by electorate breakdown of each election commitment, a brief outline of the project, its value, what year construction is to begin, when it will be completed, how much water is to saved, which program the project is to be funded and how the project fits into the overall basin plan?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
134	Written Questions	Birmingham Nash	Menindee Lakes	(a) On the 20 th November, 2007 the Shadow Minister, stated; “ <i>A Rudd Labor Government will invest up to \$400 million in practical water saving projects to improve water efficiency and</i>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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	on Notice			<p><i>make massive water savings at Menindee Lakes on the Darling River in Western New South Wales.</i>” What work has the Government undertaken to implement this election commitment?</p> <p>(b) From what program will the \$400 million election commitment for the Menindee Lakes come from and who will be the lead agency?</p> <p>(c) Has the Government had any discussions with any relevant State Government Minister’s or departments in relation to \$400 million Menindee Lakes election Commitment?</p> <p>(d) What type of work will be undertaken with the \$400 million Meindee Lakes election commitment?</p> <p>(e) When will work commence at Menindee Lakes on the Government’s \$400 million Menindee Lakes commitment and when will it be completed?</p> <p>(f) In the same Media Release from the Shadow Minister on the 20th of November, 2007, Mr Albanese states; <i>‘Federal Labor will also invest up to \$12 million to fund the missing link pipeline between Warren and Nyngan in Western NSW to provide greater water security for the communities of Cobar and Nyngan and return up to 2 billion litres per year to the Murray Darling Basin.’</i> Has the Government started work on this election commitment?</p> <p>(g) What discussion’s has the Government or the Department had with the NSW Government to progress this \$12 million election commitment?</p> <p>(h) When will this project commence?</p> <p>(i) Under what program is the \$12 million to fund the missing link pipeline between Warren and Nyngan being funded and who will be the lead agency?</p> <p>(j) The Shadow Minister at that time, Mr Albanese’s media release states that the \$12 million project to fund the missing link pipeline between Warren and Nyngan will return 2 billion litres of per year to the Murray Darling Basin? Does this mean any water saved from piping the water will have to be returned to the Macquarie River?</p>			
135	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Election Commitments	<p>(a) The Document titled ‘Labor’s national plan to tackle the water crisis. Election 2007 states that; “Up to \$124 million further investment in the Wimmera Mallee pipeline project to ensure the project is completed and water savings delivered as soon as possible.’ Is this an accurate description of the Labor Party’s election commitment?</p> <p>(b) Is it still the Government’s intention to provide \$124 million to the Wimmera Mallee? If not why not?</p> <p>(c) Is it not a fact that the Minister has written to her Victorian counterpart arguing stating the Commonwealth Government is only committed to funding \$99 million and not \$124 million as promised prior to the election? Is the Wimmera Mallee pipeline going to be another victim of the government’s long list of broken promises?</p>	3.1	WG	04/08/08
136	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Adelaide Water Supply/lower lakes/election commitments	<p>(a) What has the Minister done to secure Adelaide’s water supply into the future?</p> <p>(b) Does the Government support either a Temporary or permanent Weir known as the Wellington Weir option in South Australia? Has the Government, department or Murray-Darling Basin Commission undertaken any work or studies on the Wellington Weir option? If so, please outline what work or studies have been undertaken or are being undertaken.</p> <p>(c) Has the Government done any feasibility studies, environmental or socio-economic studies into removing the barrages and allowing sea water back into the lower lakes?</p> <p>(d) What work has been undertaken by the Government or the department in relation to securing</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				<p>Adelaide's water supply and will the government be contributing funds to any projects?</p> <p>(e) What work has been undertaken by the Government or the Murray-Darling Basin Commission in relation to the construction of a desalination plant in Adelaide? If so, please outline what work or studies have been undertaken or are being undertaken.</p> <p>(f) Given the dire state of the Murray and the storages on in the Southern part of the Murray Darling Basin, what time frame does the Government believe is reasonable for drought proofing projects which augment Adelaide's water supplies and help alleviate the pressures further downstream to be completed?</p> <p>(g) What is the government doing to combat concerns about soil acidity in the Lower Lakes? Has any funding being allocated to address this crisis?</p>			
137	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Melbourne Water Supply	<p>(a) Does the Document titled 'Labor's national plan to tackle the water crisis. Election 2007. Policy Document Kevin Rudd MP Federal Labor Leader Anthony Albanese MP Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Water November 2007' which states; <i>The health of the rivers in the Murray Darling Basin is not negotiable, and their plight is urgent. Diminishing river flows in the Murray Darling Basin directly affect the health of the farm sector, the rural communities that rely on agriculture for their survival and the health of the river's natural environment,</i> accurately reflect the Government's water policies?</p> <p>(b) Is the Government, department or Murray-Darling Commission aware of the Victorian Government's project to pump water from the Goulburn River system out of the Murray Darling Basin to the Sugarloaf Reservoir, to augment Melbourne's water supply know as the North-South Pipeline has a 110 gigalitre capacity?</p> <p>(c) How does taking 110 billion litres out of the Murray Darling Basin to flush toilets in Melbourne not diminish the river flows in the Murray Darling Basin?</p> <p>(d) What affect will the Victorian Government's decision to raid the water from the Murray Darling Basin have on water supplies for communities, farmers and the environment in the Murray Darling Basin?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
138	Written Questions on Notice	Nash	Water Initiative	<p>(a) On the 10th of May 2007 the Shadow Minister released a Media Release with one line stating a Labor Government will be "Properly implementing the 2004 National Water Initiative", what does this mean?</p> <p>(b) What is the Government now doing to 'properly implement the 2004 National Water Initiative? Will the Government be with-holding funding from State's who have not properly implemented the 2004 National Water Initiative.</p> <p>(c) Does the Government have any plans to compulsorily acquire properties or water licences in NSW or Queensland?</p> <p>(d) Does the Government have any plans to buy properties in Queensland such as Cubby Station?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
139	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Drought Contingency Plan	<p>(a) What has been the economic impact of the drought contingency plans on communities in the Murray Darling Basin?</p> <p>(b) Has the Department done any economic and social impact studies on the impact of the drought contingency plans on communities in the Murray Darling Basin? If not why not?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
140	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Wastewater	<p>(a) Is it Government policy to set a national target of recycling 30 per cent of wastewater by 2015. How will this be achieved? What are the estimated costs? Will the target be compulsory? How will the targeted be funded? Does it apply to all water authorities and local councils across</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				<p>Australia?</p> <p>(b) Is it a fact that Melbourne currently sends 240 gigalitres of storm and waste water in to the ocean every year?</p> <p>(c) How much stormwater and wastewater is known to be released into the ocean every year around Australia? Please provide by state and/or capital city if possible.</p>			
141	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Pipeline to Rockhampton to Gladstone	<p>At a Doorstop interview with Labor Candidate for Flynn, Chris Trevor Auckland Hill, Gladstone on the 12th of November the Shadow Minister for Water stated “A Federal Labor Government will commit \$20 million from our national Water Security Plan for Towns and Cities, to assist the construction of the pipeline from Rockhampton to Gladstone, which will be 110 km's in length and will provide some 30 gigalitres or 30 thousand million litres of water for Gladstone.”</p> <p>(a) What is the current status of this project?</p> <p>(b) Has the department received any submissions for funding for this project?</p> <p>(c) What is the current estimated cost of this project?</p> <p>(d) When will the funding for the project be delivered and when will the project be completed?</p> <p>(e) Which other projects will be funded by the Government with no departmental scrutiny?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
142	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Funding for water projects	<p>What funding has been committed to each of the following projects, when, from which programs or allocations, when are they expected to be completed and what is the environmental or water saving benefit?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$80m for the Central Coast Pipeline, NSW • \$4m for Delta Electricity in Lithgow to use recycled water • \$160m for Desalination Plant in the Upper Spencer Gulf • \$30m for Gngangara Mound Aquifer Recharge Project • \$500,000 for the Aquatic Weed Harvester for the Hawkesbury Nepean River • \$3m to upgrade Leichhardt Oval • \$140,000 to help Lismore prepare for future floods at Browns Creek and South Lismore Levee • \$250,000 for the Oberon Council's water reuse scheme for timber mill • \$50m for restoring Snowy River environmental flows • \$20m for Tuggerah Lakes health • \$12m to fund pipelines between Warren and Nyngan and return up to 2 billion litres to Murray-Darling Basin • \$408m for the Western Corridor Recycling Project, Queensland • \$124m further investment in Wimmera Mallee pipeline 	3.1	WG	31/07/08
143	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	\$50M purchase of water for Murray-Darling	<p>(a) What was meant by the Minister's statement of 23 May 2008 concerning water buybacks, where she said the \$50 million purchase of 35 gigalitres of water “<i>means that Murray-Darling rivers will get a greater share as water becomes available</i>”?</p> <p>(b) How will the \$50 million of taxpayer money actually translate to environmental flows?</p> <p>(c) Will the \$50 million help to improve flow through the Murray Mouth? If so, by how much?</p> <p>(d) How will it help the health of the Coorong and the Lower Lakes? By how much will flow into the Coorong and Lower Lakes be increased as a result of this purchase?</p> <p>(e) How much extra flow do you estimate will reach the Coorong, the Lower Lakes and the Murray Mouth as a result of the \$3.1 billion water buyback?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				(f) Will the Government ever consider reselling to landholders the water rights it has purchased from them? (g) If so, how would such a plan work? Who would get the first rights?			
144	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Adelaide Parklands water recycling project	(a) When will the \$30.2 million Glenelg to Adelaide Parklands water recycling project commence? (b) When is work due to be completed? (c) What is the total cost? (d) How much are other levels of government putting in? (e) Will the Commonwealth contribute any extra funds if the cost of the project blows out? (f) Are there contracts in place for the purchase of the recycled water? If so, what are the details? (g) Will the City of Adelaide have to pay for the water? If so, how much? Has the council agreed to this? (h) Will any revenue be paid to the Commonwealth to offset the \$30 million cost of the project? (i) What volume and proportion of wastewater from this plant will be recycled under the project? Has work been undertaken to see if this could be increased?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
145	Written Questions on Notice	Nash	Cotton and Rice farmers	(a) On <i>February 19, 2007</i> ALP Member Bill Shorten stated in The Australian "It's time to bite the bullet on cotton and rice. The Prime Minister must show some leadership and buy water entitlements from cotton and rice farmers, compulsorily if necessary." Is this government policy? (b) What is the Government's view of growing crops such as cotton and rice in Australia?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
146	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	National Rainwater Greywater Initiative	(a) When will people be able to apply for rebates under the National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative? (b) How will rebate recipients be selected? Is it first in, best dressed? (c) Will it also be means tested? (d) If residents apply in a financial year for which the funding allocated has run out, will funding be made available from following years? If so, will further funds be allocated for the six years? If not, why not?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
147	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	Water for the Future	(a) What will the \$400 million identified in Budget Paper 2, page 160, as "Water for the Future – taking early action" be spent on? (b) What was the \$96.2m from the 2007-08 financial year spent on? Does it represent another program? If so, what program? (c) Have any grants already been allocated under this funding initiative? If so, please detail the amounts, recipients and electorates. (d) From what program or programs was the 2011-12 funding allocated to this initiative cut?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
148	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Water Buy back	(a) With regard to the water buyback, can the Department provide a list indicating individual amounts purchased, date purchased, and whether the seller retains any entitlement? (b) Can the Department further outline what 'stranded assets' have occurred as a result of the buyback from these sellers? What is the value of the stranded assets? (c) Has the Department completed a socio-economic demographic survey of regions which have been targeted for water buyback? (d) What cost will the reduced farm income have on 'beyond the farm gate' services? How have farmers indicated funds will be used? (e) Has the Department offered or provided financial advice to sellers? If so, at what cost and to	3.1	WG	10/10/08

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				<p>whom?</p> <p>(f) What proportion of offers from farmers to sell were accepted by the Department? What was the average price of offers? What was the average price of agreed deals? How many offers were above 'market rates'? How many offers were rejected before further assessments (to assess value of stranded assets etc) as part of the deal? Did the Government focus purchases on over-allocated streams?</p> <p>(g) Can the Government provide advice on which tributaries will receive increased flows after the buyback? Which sites will particularly benefit? Have wetlands been given priority over other areas?</p> <p>(h) Who will cover the service charges to the water authorities as a result of the buyback? With regard to the Foodbowl Modernisation Scheme, which the Rudd Government has indicated it will partially fund, who will own the 'spurs' through which the water runs to farms?</p> <p>(i) What advice has the Department given the Minister in relation to investment in on-farm infrastructure? When was this advice given?</p>			
149	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Murray-Darling Authority	<p>(a) When will the new Murray-Darling Basin Authority come into being?</p> <p>(b) How will the Board be appointed?</p> <p>(c) What remuneration will be made to Board members?</p> <p>(d) How many Board members will there be?</p> <p>(e) Will the Board answer to the Minister for Water, or to the Minister for the Environment, or both?</p> <p>(f) Will the agency sit inside the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet or the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts?</p> <p>(g) When will assessments for compensation for stranded assets be made? How will these assessments be made and by whom? What timeframe has been developed for this? Will assessments for assets be made at market value before or after the sale of the water right?</p>	3.1	WG	04/08/08
150	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Desalination plant in Adelaide	<p>(a) How much will the Commonwealth provide towards a desalination plant in Adelaide? When is this funding being provided? How much is the project estimated to cost?</p> <p>(b) What contracts have been entered into for construction of the plant?</p> <p>(c) Is the SA Government accountable to the Federal Government for how the money is spent? If so, how?</p> <p>(d) What will the Government do to offset the greenhouse emissions from the desalination plant?</p> <p>(e) How will desalination plants be included as part of an Emissions Trading Scheme?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08
151	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Water recycling	<p>(a) Is the Minister considering any significant projects for stormwater harvesting, such as the \$400 million Adelaide project proposed by the South Australian Opposition?</p> <p>(b) Will the Government provide funding for a major expansion of water recycling infrastructure?</p> <p>(c) Will the Government consider or rule out funding to upgrade the quality of recycled water?</p> <p>(d) Are there any plans to recycle wastewater for drinking?</p> <p>(e) How are projects under the National Urban Water and Desalination Plan selected?</p> <p>(f) Why is this Plan only for cities with populations of more than 50,000 people?</p> <p>(g) Minister Wong advised in a media release of 13 May 2008 that funds through this program would be "conditional on state and territory governments achieving agreed water reforms through the Council of Australian Governments". What are these "agreed water reforms"?</p>	3.1	WG	31/07/08

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				(h) How will these state and territory governments be held accountable? Will there be reporting? Will the Federal Government monitor the States and Territories? If so, how will this occur? (i) Labor's <i>National Plan to tackle the Water Crisis</i> election commitment document makes reference to the National Urban Water and Desalination Plan funding a 10% Water Tax Credit initiative. Will such an initiative be included? If so, how will this work?			
152	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Centres of Excellence in Desalination	(a) Where will the Centres of Excellence in Desalination and Water Recycling be located? How was this determined? (b) What funding will be provided to each Centre? What accountability mechanisms apply to each Centre? (c) What is the purpose of these Centres? What will they actually achieve?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
153	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	National Water Security Plan	(a) What programs will be administered under the National Water Security Plan for Cities and Towns initiative? How has this money been allocated? (b) What has been administered under the \$10 million spent in 2007-08? (c) Does the Government intend to provide a grants program under this initiative? If so, how will this work? Will this be a competitive application process?	3.1	WG	31/07/08
154	Written Question on Notice	Fielding	Latrobe aquifer	(a) Yarram farmers dependent on the Latrobe aquifer still have to fund 50% of the disadvantage they suffer from falling water levels. Family First appreciates that the government has committed \$3.6 million to fund 50% of the government contribution to the problem, but notes that the Victorian Government wants the Federal Government to provide 80%. What work will the Department undertake with the Victorian government to resolve this disagreement? (b) Will the Department commit to resolving this disagreement with the Victorian government for the benefit of the Gippsland farmers? (c) Please provide an update on where negotiations are on providing compensation to farmers and when that money will be provided, including any work on a groundwater management plan. (d) Please provide a copy of the report on the Latrobe aquifer which led to the announcement of the \$3.6 million assistance for farmers.	3.1	WG	31/07/08
155	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	NWC Administration	(a) Did the Commission seek an exemption from the application of the one-off two per cent efficiency dividend? (b) If so, why did the Commission feel it needed to apply for this exemption, to whom did it apply and was the exemption granted? (c) If the efficiency dividend applies, how will the Commission manage the funding cut and what, if any, programs will be cut to accommodate it? Can the Commission outline the source [e.g. the Minister, the Department of Finance and Deregulation] of any suggested savings measures? (d) Is the Commission budgeting for an operating loss and, if so, is it because of the application of the efficiency dividend? (e) Has the Commission made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (f) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis?	General	NWC	18/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				(g) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (h) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (i) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (j) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (k) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (l) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (m) Does the Commission monitor the media? (n) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (o) Is any information provided to the Minister? (p) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (q) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (r) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (s) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (t) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (u) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (v) How long have the positions been vacant? (w) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (x) Has the Commission received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (y) How many FOI requests has the Commission received? (z) How many have been granted or denied? (aa) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
156	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham Nash	Farm efficiencies	(a) In what electorates are the nine 'on-farm efficiency pilot projects which have been invited to submit more information located and provide a brief outline of each project, estimated cost, estimate water savings and when they will be funded? (b) Is it still the government's intention to invest \$1.635 billion in 'on-farm efficiencies'? If not, why not and how much are they going to invest? (c) Is the Government maintaining the principal established by the former government that all irrigation modernising projects such as the on-farm and in system investments would share the water savings achieved 50:50 between irrigators and the Government? If not what is the government's position on sharing water savings between the Government and irrigators?	3.1	WG	04/08/08
157	105	Kemp	Western Aust	Senator KEMP —Are there any outstanding workplace relations issues in orchestras at present? Let	4.1	Arts	31/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
	(29 May)		Symphony Orchestra	<p>me pursue that. Is there currently a continuing problem in WASO?</p> <p>Ms Keele—I do not think we know that. I would like to take that on notice...</p> <p>Senator KEMP—The view has been put to me that the call-out time for the WASO is—if I remember correctly, it was described as—fewer hours than apply elsewhere in Australia. Can anyone shed any light on that for me?</p> <p>Ms Keele—No. We will get back to you on that.</p>			
158	105 (29 May)	Kemp	Orchestra SOMA	<p>Senator KEMP—I was under the impression that that matter had been fixed up. But I notice that SOMA continues to go around seeking more money for orchestras. Is that correct?</p> <p>Ms Keele—SOMA?</p> <p>Senator KEMP—Yes.</p> <p>Ms Keele—Yes. I just do not know the detail. I would have to get back to you.</p>	4.1	Arts	31/07/08
159	124 (29 May)	Kemp	NGA new artworks	<p>Senator KEMP—In the last 12 months, roughly how much would you have you spent on acquiring new works of art?</p> <p>Mr Radford—I might have to take that on notice, because we have to add bequests and what we have raised.</p> <p>Senator KEMP—Take it on notice. I think it would be quite interesting for the committee to see the trend over the last, say, five years or so.</p>	4.1	NGA	31/07/08
160	129 (29 May)	Kemp	Bundanon – stay over visitors	<p>Senator KEMP—Roughly how many people stayed at Bundanon in the last year?</p> <p>Ms Ely—I would probably have to take that, in detail, on notice, but 3,000 to 4,000 schoolchildren have stayed with us and we have had 113 artists from all over Australia.</p>	4.1	Bundanon Trust	31/07/08
161	136 (29 May)	Kemp	NICA	<p>Senator KEMP—How are their arrangements with Swinburne panning out?</p> <p>Ms Bean—I would need to take the detail of this on notice, but I understand that Swinburne is looking at the structure of the arrangements at the moment...</p> <p>Senator KEMP—Are they looking at it in the sense that NICA would remain an independent organisation, independent of the university?</p> <p>Ms Bean—I do not know. I would need to take that on notice.</p>	4.1	Arts	31/07/08
162	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	AFTRS Administration	<p>(a) Has AFTRS made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a:</p> <p>(i) full-time basis?</p> <p>(ii) part-time basis?</p> <p>(iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(d) What are the base and top level salaries of:</p> <p>(i) APS level 1 to 6 officers?</p> <p>(ii) Executive level officers?</p> <p>(iii) Senior Executive Services officers?</p> <p>(iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these</p>	4.1	AFTRS	31/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				<p>staff?</p> <p>(g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(i) Does AFTRS monitor the media?</p> <p>(j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?</p> <p>(k) Is any information provided to the Minister?</p> <p>(l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring?</p> <p>(m) What are the APS classifications of these positions?</p> <p>(n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?</p> <p>(o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards?</p> <p>(p) What are the respective appointees' credentials?</p> <p>(q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?</p> <p>(r) How long have the positions been vacant?</p> <p>(s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio?</p> <p>(t) Has AFTRS received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests?</p> <p>(u) How many FOI requests has AFTRS received?</p> <p>(v) How many have been granted or denied?</p> <p>(w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?</p>			
163	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Australia Council - Administration	<p>(a) Has the Australia Council made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a:</p> <p>(i) full-time basis?</p> <p>(ii) part-time basis?</p> <p>(iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(d) What are the base and top level salaries of:</p> <p>(i) APS level 1 to 6 officers?</p> <p>(ii) Executive level officers?</p> <p>(iii) Senior Executive Services officers?</p> <p>(iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?</p> <p>(g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p>	4.1	Australia Council	31/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				(i) Does the Australia Council monitor the media? (j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (k) Is any information provided to the Minister? (l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (m) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (p) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (r) How long have the positions been vacant? (s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (t) Has the Australia Council received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (u) How many FOI requests has the Australia Council received? (v) How many have been granted or denied? (w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
164	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Australian National Maritime Museum Administration	(a) Has the Museum made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (d) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (i) Does the Museum monitor the media? (j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (k) Is any information provided to the Minister?	4.1	ANMM	31/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				(l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (m) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (p) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (r) How long have the positions been vacant? (s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (t) Has the Museum received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (u) How many FOI requests has the Australia Council received? (v) How many have been granted or denied? (w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
165	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Australian Film Commission - Administration	(a) Has the Commission made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (d) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (i) Does the Commission monitor the media? (j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (k) Is any information provided to the Minister? (l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (m) What are the APS classifications of these positions?	4.1	AFC	31/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				(n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (p) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (r) How long have the positions been vacant? (s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (t) Has the Commission received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (u) How many FOI requests has the Commission received? (v) How many have been granted or denied? (w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
166	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	Film Australia - Administration	(a) Has Film Australia made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (d) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (i) Does Film Australia monitor the media? (j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (k) Is any information provided to the Minister? (l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (m) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards?	4.1	FAA	07/08/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				<p>(p) What are the respective appointees' credentials?</p> <p>(q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?</p> <p>(r) How long have the positions been vacant?</p> <p>(s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio?</p> <p>(t) Has Film Australia received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests?</p> <p>(u) How many FOI requests has Film Australia received?</p> <p>(v) How many have been granted or denied?</p> <p>(w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?</p>			
167	Written Questions on Notice	Birmingham	FFC - Administration	<p>(a) Has FFC made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a:</p> <p>(i) full-time basis?</p> <p>(ii) part-time basis?</p> <p>(iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(d) What are the base and top level salaries of:</p> <p>(i) APS level 1 to 6 officers?</p> <p>(ii) Executive level officers?</p> <p>(iii) Senior Executive Services officers?</p> <p>(iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?</p> <p>(g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(i) Does the FCC monitor the media?</p> <p>(j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?</p> <p>(k) Is any information provided to the Minister?</p> <p>(l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring?</p> <p>(m) What are the APS classifications of these positions?</p> <p>(n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?</p> <p>(o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards?</p> <p>(p) What are the respective appointees' credentials?</p> <p>(q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?</p>	4.1	FFC	06/08/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				(r) How long have the positions been vacant? (s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (t) Has the FFC received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (u) How many FOI requests has the FFC received? (v) How many have been granted or denied? (w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
168	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	NMA Administration	(a) Has the Museum made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (d) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (i) Does the Museum monitor the media? (j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (k) Is any information provided to the Minister? (l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (m) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (p) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (r) How long have the positions been vacant? (s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (t) Has the Museum received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests?	4.1	NMA	31/07/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				(u) How many FOI requests has the Museum received? (v) How many have been granted or denied? (w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?			
169	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	NGA Administration	(a) Has the Gallery made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought? (b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a: (i) full-time basis? (ii) part-time basis? (iii) part-time equivalent basis? (c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (d) What are the base and top level salaries of: (i) APS level 1 to 6 officers? (ii) Executive level officers? (iii) Senior Executive Services officers? (iv) Equivalent officers employed? (e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level? (f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff? (g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November? (h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? (i) Does the Gallery monitor the media? (j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year? (k) Is any information provided to the Minister? (l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring? (m) What are the APS classifications of these positions? (n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections? (o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards? (p) What are the respective appointees' credentials? (q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments? (r) How long have the positions been vacant? (s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio? (t) Has the Gallery received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests? (u) How many FOI requests has the Gallery received? (v) How many have been granted or denied? (w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?	4.1	NGA	01/08/08

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Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
170	Written Question on Notice	Birmingham	NLA Administration	<p>(a) Has the Library made in the last six months any request, in accordance with the Financial Management and Accountability Act, for Regulation 10 Authority from the Finance Minister? If so, why was this authority sought?</p> <p>(b) What is the total number of permanent staff employed on a:</p> <p>(i) full-time basis?</p> <p>(ii) part-time basis?</p> <p>(iii) part-time equivalent basis?</p> <p>(c) How many employees are employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(d) What are the base and top level salaries of:</p> <p>(i) APS level 1 to 6 officers?</p> <p>(ii) Executive level officers?</p> <p>(iii) Senior Executive Services officers?</p> <p>(iv) Equivalent officers employed?</p> <p>(e) How many officers are employed at executive level and SES level?</p> <p>(f) How many permanent staff have been recruited since 26 November 2007? What level are these staff?</p> <p>(g) How many temporary positions exist or have been created since 26 November?</p> <p>(h) Since 26 November, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> <p>(i) Does the Library monitor the media?</p> <p>(j) How much has been spent on media monitoring to date this year?</p> <p>(k) Is any information provided to the Minister?</p> <p>(l) How many employees are engaged in positions responsible for public affairs, media management, liaison with the media and media monitoring?</p> <p>(m) What are the APS classifications of these positions?</p> <p>(n) What is the current operating budget for these media-related sections?</p> <p>(o) What appointments have been made by the Government (through Executive Council, Cabinet and Ministers) to Statutory Authorities, Executive Agencies and Advisory Boards?</p> <p>(p) What are the respective appointees' credentials?</p> <p>(q) How many vacancies remain to be filled by Ministerial (including Cabinet and Executive Council) appointments?</p> <p>(r) How long have the positions been vacant?</p> <p>(s) What grants which have been approved by Ministers from within their portfolio?</p> <p>(t) Has the Library received any advice on how to respond to freedom of information (FOI) requests?</p> <p>(u) How many FOI requests has the Library received?</p> <p>(v) How many have been granted or denied?</p> <p>(w) How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests?</p>	4.1	NLA	01/08/08
171	75 (29/5/08)	Cormann	Binningup Desalination Plant	Before I get into a series of questions about pre-election commitments on water as they relate to my home state of Western Australia, I would just like to touch on an issue that I have received representations on from the federal member for Forrest, Nola Marino, which are really a bridge	1.5	AWD	08/08/08

STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 28 – 29 MAY 2008

Ques No.	ECA Page No and Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Output	Agency/ Division	Date Rec'd
				<p>between conservation and water. They relate to the state government's plan in Western Australia to establish a second desalination plant in Binningup, north of Bunbury in Western Australia ...</p> <p>... I understand there is a federal environmental assessment as part of the process. I would be interested in some information as to the timing for the process, whether you are assessing threats to whales as part of that assessment, whether the minister intends to visit the site and meet with concerned local community members and whether the minister would request that priority be given to cleaning up and recycling the 100 billion litres of sewage that is currently being dumped off the coast of Western Australia rather than pursuing desalination. These are essentially the representations that I have received from the member for Forrest...</p>			