

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

Answers to questions on notice

Agriculture, Water and the Environment Portfolio

Inquiry: Financial Framework (Supplementary Powers) Amendment (Agriculture, Water and the Environment Measures No. 1) Regulations 2021 [F2021L00288]

Question No: IQ21-000075

Hearing Date: 02 August 2021

Division/Agency: Water Division

Topic: Date the guidelines were provided to Finance

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Question Date: 02 August 2021

Question Type: Spoken

Senator Sterle asked:

Senator STERLE: Beautiful. Thank you very much. Doctor, were guidelines provided to Finance for their advice?

Dr Derham: Part of the process in working with the Community Grants Hub is that we worked with them and through them to ensure that the central agencies were able to see and endorse those guidelines as they were developed.

Senator STERLE: Sorry, I'm a bit blank there. So did Finance—

Dr Derham: Yes, Senator.

Senator STERLE: They were. Good. And could you tell us when they were provided to Finance?

Dr Derham: I'll have to take that on notice to give you an exact date, but it was certainly done as part of our arrangements with the Community Grants Hub, so well and truly before they were finalised.

Senator STERLE: Good, thanks.

Answer:

The Community Grants Hub has confirmed that the Grant Opportunity Guidelines for Round 1 of the Murray–Darling Healthy Rivers Program were provided to the Department of Finance for comment on 8 February 2021 and again on 26 February 2021 to review minor administrative changes.