



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Additional Estimates 2019-20
Friday, 6 March 2020
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee estimates hearing.

The committee met from 9.00am until 4.04pm

The committee called:

- Water Division, Murray-Darling Basin Water Resources Taskforce, Commonwealth Environmental Water Office, Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, National Water Grid Authority, Murray-Darling Basin Authority, Interim Inspector-General of Murray-Darling Basin Water Resources and Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES).

Topics discussed by the committee included:

- establishment of the statutory position of the Inspector-General of Murray-Darling Basin Water Resources;
- agreement made between the government and a group of irrigators in the lower Darling regarding water purchases;
- update on the Water for Fodder program;
- expansion of the almond industry in the Sunraysia area;
- dams and the capture of 'peak water';
- CSIRO report into repairing the river system;
- impact of coronavirus on the agricultural sector; and
- recent ABARES conference.