

**SENATE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS
LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

INQUIRY INTO THE WATER AMENDMENT BILL 2015 [PROVISIONS]

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS TAKEN ON NOTICE

EDO's of Australia

We undertook to provide the Committee with further information regarding the location of EDO offices and concerns raised by clients regarding the proposed cap on buybacks.

1) Location of EDO Offices

EDOs of Australia have offices in each State and Territory (excepting Victoria). This includes two regional offices in NSW and Queensland. Also, many EDOs have full rural and regional programs and/or solicitors (such as EDO WA and EDO NSW). EDO NSW consistently fields over 2/3 of its Telephone Law Line inquiries from rural and regional NSW and runs many workshops in rural NSW each year.

2) Concerns raised by clients regarding capping buybacks

A representative from two farming groups (whose members rely on irrigated agriculture) indicated to us that “extra buyers in the market is always going to be helpful” when trying to sell entitlements. On that basis, members were opposed to the cap on buybacks.

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EDO NSW