



Australian Government

**Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water**

Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) Inquiry into Commonwealth Financial Statements 2023-24

5 December 2025

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Overview

Following the Committee's invitation, the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (the department) makes the following submission to the Joint Committee of Public Accounts and Audit (JCPAA) Inquiry into Commonwealth Financial Statements 2023-24.

ANAO Moderate Audit Finding

The department received an unmodified audit opinion from the Auditor-General for its financial statements ending 30 June 2024. The 2023-24 closing audit letter from the ANAO included the one moderate audit finding as follows:

- **TechOne FMIS privileged user access monitoring (category B):** The audit finding relates to weaknesses in the design and operating effectiveness of the privileged users monitoring controls in the department's Financial Management Information System (FMIS), TechOne.

The ANAO recommended that the department update its privileged user access monitoring policy to ensure regular reviews of privileged users' access and activities, including the retention of evidence demonstrating that these reviews were appropriately conducted in accordance with the policy.

FMIS Operating Environment

The department's new FMIS, TechOne, came into operation on 1 July 2023 (Financial Year 2023-24). The new FMIS brought together three FMIS; two instances of TechOne, one belonging to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and one belonging to the Department of Industry, Science and Resources (DISR); and one instance of SAP.

While the implementation of a new TechOne allowed the department to better manage its financial transactions and associated financial reporting for 2023-24, the systems internal controls framework and processes during the 2023-24 financial year were still maturing.

Progress Update on the Actions to Address the Audit Finding

The department has developed and refined its Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for logging and monitoring privileged user activities in TechOne. In accordance with the newly developed SOPs, reports on privileged user activities were generated and reviewed for the period 1 July 2024 to 31 May 2025.

The ANAO is yet to agree on the robustness of the SOPs and associated privileged users' activities review being performed by the department. Noting that further work is still needed to:

- Review privileged user activity reports more regularly, and
- Retain evidence and sign-offs on review activities for audit purposes.

Next Steps

The department will continue to work with the ANAO to resolve the audit finding, to the best of its ability. Further, it will ensure the FMIS internal control environment meets the necessary standards moving forward.