

Subject: RE: Question on Notice from Senator Madigan
Date: Friday, 5 February 2016

Hi,

Please find below my response to the question on notice from Senator Madigan asked in this morning's hearing. The table below summarises the number of Regional Wellbeing Survey participants who lived in the Murray Darling Basin in our (i) 2013 and (ii) 2014 survey

- In 2013, 70.5% of our survey participants lived in the Basin (6,430 of 9,134 survey participants). Note that in our first year we surveyed 9,000 participants and this has now increased to 12,000
- In 2014, 57.6% of our survey participants lived in the Basin (6,994 of 12,132 survey participants)

I also note that the witnesses who followed me appeared to have the view that my research is suggesting their region is experiencing no negative impacts as a result of the Basin Plan. This is not the case. I emphasised in my statement today that, while many Basin communities are not experiencing substantial impacts, a small number are, and we have also identified irrigators experiencing higher water delivery costs or impacts from environmental watering as a key group likely to experience negative impacts. The Goulburn Murray irrigation district is one in which we have identified higher water delivery costs as a key concern. I hope this helps clarify some of the discussion.

Thank you
Jacki

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