
The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Advisory Report

Water Amendment (Water for the Environment Special Account) Bill 2012

House of Representatives
Standing Committee on Regional Australia

November 2012
Canberra

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Membership of the Committee

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Deputy Chair Mr Steve Gibbons MP

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 Mr Barry Hasse MP
 Ms Kirsten Livermore MP
 Mr Michael McCormack MP
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Terms of reference

On 1 November 2012 the Selection Committee of the House of Representatives referred the Water Amendment (Environment for the Special Account) Bill 2012 for inquiry and report.



List of abbreviations

ACF	Australian Conservation Foundation
ADIC	Australian Dairy Industry Council
the Authority	Murray-Darling Basin Authority
the Basin Plan	Murray-Darling Basin Plan
EVic	Environment Victoria
GL	gigalitre
MI	Murray Irrigators
MPII	Murrumbidgee Private Irrigators Incorporated
NFF	National Farmers' Federation
NIC	National Irrigators' Council
NSWIC	New South Wales Irrigators' Council
SEWPAC	Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities
Special Account	Water for the Environment Special Account
Water Act	<i>Water Act 2007</i> (Cth)
YACTAC	Yanco Creek and Tributaries Advisory Council



List of recommendations

Water Amendment (Water for the Environment Special Account) Bill 2012

Recommendation 1

The Committee recommends that the Government introduce amendment to subclause 86AD(4) to provide greater clarity of the limitation it places on subclause 86AD(2)(b), specifically that the Special Account will not be used by the Commonwealth to fund general water buybacks.

Recommendation 2

The Committee recommends that the Government amend clause 86AA to clarify the objective and intent of the Bill.

Recommendation 3

The Committee recommends, subject to the amendments outlined in this report, that the House of Representatives pass the Water Amendment (Water for the Environment Special Account) Bill 2012.

