

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 181  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 4  
**Programme:** Water  
**Topic:** SUSTAINABLE DIVERSION LIMIT ADJUSTMENT EFFICIENCY MEASURES  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Rhiannon asked:**

With regard to the 1500 GL cap on buybacks of water, what impact has the cap had on buybacks has had on the cost of recovering water for the environment?

**Answer:**

There is no evidence to suggest that there has been any impact on the cost of recovering water for the environment. The Australian Government has continued to implement the Basin Plan and undertake water recovery in accordance with the requirements of the Basin Plan and the objects of the Water Act 2007 to optimise economic, social and environmental outcomes.

The Australian Government water purchases are made in accordance with independent advice on market prices, taking account of a number of factors such as water entitlement type and location.