

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

Question No: 418
Hearing: Supplementary Budget Estimates
Outcome: Agency
Programme: National Water Commission
Topic: WATER BLUEPRINT
Hansard Page: N/A
Question Date: 29 October 2014
Question Type: Written

Senator Xenophon asked:

The Federal Government has named the Productivity Commission as the body to take over the role of monitoring and auditing water reform. What are the NWC's key concerns about the handover?

Answer:

The National Water Commission is pleased that the Triennial Assessment function for water reform will continue. Key matters for the Productivity Commission to consider will be that assessments are undertaken in a timely manner, with appropriate stakeholder consultation, with regard to the economic, social and environmental objectives of water reform, and with a national focus representative of a range of views. The Productivity Commission will need to ensure that facilitation of activities around the development of the Triennial Assessment continues to occur to ensure that synergies, which arise from a dedicated water body undertaking a number of related functions, are maintained as far as possible.