

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

Question No: 421
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:

What is the NWC's position on the Government's Green Paper on competitiveness in agriculture, with regard to the plans for more dams and water infrastructure?

Answer:

The National Water Commission notes that government has commissioned a range of new water resource assessments and analyses, particularly by the CSIRO, in support of improved decision making on possible water infrastructure investments. These assessments are relevant for a number of policy development processes, including the agriculture competitiveness and northern Australia white papers. In conjunction with a commitment to continue to undertake water investments in line with National Water Initiative (NWI) principles, the Commission supports the government's approach to improving water resource knowledge and implementation of the principles of the NWI for water infrastructure investments.