

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications  
Legislation Committee**

Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment and Energy portfolio**

**Question No:** 252  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 4  
**Program:** Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (CEWO)  
**Topic:** Murray-Darling Basin Plan - Funding  
**Hansard Page:** n/a  
**Question Date:** 01 November 2016  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Urquhart, Anne asked:**

Does this change in light of the proposed Water Act (SDL Adjustment) Bill that is currently being considered in Parliament? Will the department be assisting the MDBA on assessing projects?

Will these cuts impact on water management actions and planning in any way?

What projects or programs will be cut?

**Answer:**

Responsibility for Water Act (SDL Adjustment) Bill rests with the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources and the agencies in that portfolio.

The Commonwealth Environmental Water Office works closely with the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources and the Murray-Darling Basin Authority to implement the Basin Plan, including SDL Adjustment proposals.

The Murray Darling Basin Authority's budget is a matter for the Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister for Agriculture and Water Resources, including any impacts of the functions of the Murray Darling Basin Authority.