

ENVIRONMENT COMMUNICATIONS AND LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 28-29 MAY 2013

SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, POPULATION AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO

| QoN No. | Program: Division or Agency | Senator | Broad Topic | Question | Hansard Page and Date or Written | Date Rec'd | Date Tabled |
|----------------|------------------------------------|----------------|--|---|---|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 | 1.1 BCD | Siewert | Indigenous protected areas | <p>Mr Sullivan:However, in terms of the budget that has been notionally set aside for Indigenous protected areas, we do have a nominal increase in funding over the forward estimates based—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: And how much is that?</p> <p>Mr Sullivan: It is in the order of 10 to 15 per cent, but I will correct that on the record. Perhaps I should take that on notice to give you a final—</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: If you could give us the breakdown on how it is going to apply, that would be really useful.</p> | 47 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 2 | 1.1 BCD | Siewert | Indigenous protected areas | <p>Senator SIEWERT: The Indigenous protected area funding comes out of CFOC?</p> <p>Mr Sullivan: Yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT: Can you take on notice to give me a breakdown of the different components and all the funding so I can look at what it was the last time?</p> | 48 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 3 | 1.1 BCD | Heffernan | Caring for our Country - GhostNets Funding | <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: Could we see the details in writing of how you analysed that?</p> <p>Ms Lane: I can give you details of how those applications were treated in the assessment process, Senator, yes.</p> | 51 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 4 | 1.1 BCD | Macdonald | Caring for our Country - assessors | <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Can you give me the names of the assessors, please? I would like to check them out. This, to me, stinks.</p> <p>Mr Sullivan: We can give you a list of—</p> | 51 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 5 | 1.1 BCD | Macdonald | QLD Cattle Grazing | <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Can you tell me when they were? Again, I do not want to know what your advice was.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I would have to take it on notice. I cannot recall.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Can you take on notice, please, the dates when you provided advice to the minister or his office, starting on 14 May, and any advice you have given verbally or otherwise? If you would not mind, do that on notice.</p> | 56 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 6 | 1.1 BCD | Ruston | Caring for our Country – regional delivery component | <p>Senator RUSTON: I am just trying to work out what the actual reduction in the regional delivery component of that would be. There is a \$32 million reduction in the amount of money that is provided through those two programs if you add last year's \$144 million to your departmental line. So there is a \$32 million discrepancy. I wonder if there is any capacity to actually break that down, or is that just too hard?</p> <p>Mr Sullivan: We can give you that figure of what that \$32 million is made up of. It is made up of other payments to states that were done under the federal financial relations process. I am happy to take that on notice if you would like that detail, Senator.</p> | 67 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| 7 | 1.1 BCD | Milne | Structural adjustment payments for regional sawmillers, haulage and harvest contractors | Senator MILNE: I want to know whether the design parameters for this exit package have been redesigned to make sure that the compliance for people who take them is part of the design before they are actually advertised for people to take them up? If you take it on notice, I would appreciate that. Ms Howlett: I will take it on notice. | 70 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 8 | 1.1 BCD | Milne | Structural adjustment payments for regional sawmillers, haulage and harvest contractors | Senator MILNE: Will you give me an unequivocal guarantee that the compliance obligations for the exit package will be built in and actually in the program prior to them being advertised for application? Mr Sullivan: I think we were going to take the actual details of the compliance timing et cetera on notice to make sure that we are correct. So I think giving you an unequivocal guarantee, given that we are taking the details of that on notice, would be a bit of a bridge too far. I take your point, and we will get you that information. | 71 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 9 | 1.1 BCD | Waters | Biodiversity and Conservation Strategy 2010-30 | Senator WATERS: On the biodiversity conservation strategy 2010-30, particularly regarding the implementation plan for that document, what actions have been taken to support preparation of that implementation plan? Will that be ready, as planned, for the end of 2013? Mr Thompson: I will take the second part of your question on notice, unless other officers at the table have a ready answer to that. There are a wide range of actions that have been taken at the Commonwealth level, certainly, to underpin the implementation of that strategy, including the range of investments we make under Caring for Our Country, the Biodiversity Fund and the recent finalisation of the National Wildlife Corridors Plan, which serves that. | 72 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 10 | 1.1 BCD | Waters | Wildlife Corridor program - staffing | Senator WATERS: How many staff are working on that national wildlife corridor program at the moment? Ms Howlett: I would have to take that on notice. | 73 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 11 | 1.1 BCD | Macdonald | Caring for our Country – Reef Rescue | <i>In answer to written Question on Notice at last estimates, the department indicated that the \$200 million Reef Rescue Program that operated from 2008/9 to 2012/13 had sought to improve the GBRMP's ability to respond to climate change. Four principal areas of programming are identified by the Department in its answer:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Water Quality Grant and Partnerships</i> • <i>Research and Development Programs</i> • <i>Monitoring and Reporting Programs</i> • <i>Land and Sea Country Indigenous Partnership Programs</i> What performance measures are being used by the Department to assess the success | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | and/or failure of the programs listed above (and in the answer to QON 011)? a) How many of the programs continue to operate/will continue to operate beyond 2012/13? b) What finding has been allocated to the continuation of programs beyond 2012/13? c) To what extent is the GBRMP being monitored to assess both its current status, and any deterioration that may occur following the 2012/13 end of the programs? | | | |
| 12 | 1.1: BCD | Waters | Protection of National Parks under the EPBC Act | Senator WATERS: As I am sure you are well aware, almost two years ago at the National Press Club, the minister committed to protecting national parks from activities such as logging, grazing, mining and large-scale land clearing. Did the department brief him on how to implement that commitment? Dr Dripps: You would appreciate that there are a lot of briefings with the minister on a lot of topics, not all of which immediately spring to mind in this scenario. We will take that question on notice. I am almost certain that we have provided advice on that topic over the intervening period. | 71 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 13 | 1.1: BCD | Macdonald | Caring for our Country – Environmental Stewardship | How many Environmental Stewardship Agreements have been entered into by the department ? a) What is the total value of funding that has been allocated to these agreements? b) What is the total value of funding that has been allocated to these agreements in 2012/13? c) What is the total value of funding that has been allocated to these agreements for 2013/14? d) How many agreements – and to what value – are operating in Northern Australia (Nth Queensland, Northern territory and the Kimberley and Pilbara regions of WA)? e) What ratio of funding has been allocated to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • horticulture management; • grazing management; and, • re-forestation | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 14 | 1.1: BCD | Macdonald | Caring for our Country – Natural Resource Management Funding | How much of the Caring for Country \$669 million has been/will be allocated in Northern Australia? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 15 | 1.1: BCD | Macdonald | Caring for our Country – Natural Resource Management | Why were applications for this critical round of funding only open for less than one month (23.04.2013 – 21.05.2013)? a) What measures were taken by the Department to advertise the funding round, and the application process for the funding round? | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | Funding | b) How many applications were received? c) How much of the funding has been awarded/allocated? d) Where are the projects that have received funding? | | | |
| 16 | 1.1: BCD | Siewert | Caring for our Country – funding round | How many projects proposed under Caring for Our Country in this funding round did not get beyond the Expression of Interest stage? a) How many applications were there in total? b) Of those that did not get past the EOI stage, how many were for funding renewal? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 17 | 1.1: BCD | Siewert | Caring for our Country – GhostNets | What were the factors that caused the Ghost Net program to fail to pass the EOI stage? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 18 | 1.1: BCD | Siewert | Caring for our Country - funding | How many programs were funded in 2011/12, 2012/13, and how many will be funded in 2013/14? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 19 | 1.1: BCD | Siewert | Caring for our Country | What is being done to ensure that programs which support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples to undertake land management get funded? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 20 | 1.1: BCD | Siewert | Working on Country and Indigenous Protected Areas | What funding is available to establish new indigenous protected areas? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 21 | 1.1: BCD | Siewert | Working on Country and Indigenous Protected Areas | Why is there only a relatively small level of anticipated growth in the number of rangers employed by this program between June 2014 and June 2015 (15 new positions in total)? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 22 | 1.1: BCD | Waters | National Wildlife Corridors Plan | Will these 'wildlife corridors' be legislative instruments? Will they have any additional legal protection by virtue of their declaration? a) How many staff are working on this program at the moment? b) Does the process rely on the community to undertake the work to nominate a 'corridor'? c) What resources will the Department put into facilitating nominations? d) When will the committee be appointed? e) When will the corridor nomination process begin? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 23 | 1.1: WHMD | Macdonald | Commonwealth Marine Reserves | 1. What is the size of the catch currently extracted in the areas to be declared under the new Commonwealth Marine Reserves? 2. How many commercial fishing operators currently fish the areas to be declared under the new Commonwealth Marine Reserves? 3. How many commercial fishing licences are in operation on the North Queensland coast in 2012/13? | Written | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | | a) How many were there in 2011/12? b) In 2010/11? 4. What measurement model/criteria will be applied to determine the conservation values of the new Commonwealth Marine Reserves? | | | |
| 24 | 1.1: WHMD | Siewert | Supertrawlers – Ban end date | <i>Late last year, following huge concern from the Australian public and in particular, recreational fishers and their families, the Federal Parliament amended the EPBC Act, to allow the Federal Government to institute a two year ban on major industrial fishing operations such as that proposed with the MV Margiris Supertrawler.</i> Can you confirm the date in 2014 that the current Supertrawler ban ends, and what that means when it does. Specifically, should the ban not be renewed by the Federal Government of the day, can you confirm that without the ban being renewed, the MV Margiris or other similar industrial fishing operations, could be able to operate in Australian waters. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 25 | 1.1: WHMD | Siewert | Supertrawlers | Can you confirm the size of the area of Australia's EEZ that is protected from large scale industrial pelagic fishing including supertrawlers through Australia's marine reserves networks? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 26 | 1.1: WHMD | Siewert | Supertrawlers – Marine Reserves | If the Federal Government in 2014 does not ban the Supertrawler following the expiry of the two year initial ban, will Australia's marine reserves be the only places where supertrawlers would be banned from operating? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 27 | 1.1: WHMD | Siewert | Supertrawlers – Independent Inquiry | What process is underway to complete an independent inquiry into the impacts of a super trawler in the Australian marine environment? a) What funding has been allocated to this inquiry? b) Will the inquiry call for submissions? c) Will those submissions be publicly available? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 28 | 1.1: WHMD | Siewert | Supertrawlers | Can the government ban fishing vessels and/or companies from operating in the Australian marine environment based on a history of illegal fishing activity elsewhere in the world? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 29 | 1.1: WHMD | Whish-Wilson | TeachWild Funding | Senator WHISH-WILSON: There is a national program that you mentioned in your answers on notice called TeachWild. That is a joint venture between Shell, the federal government and state governments. Could you tell me how much money that has received? Mr Richardson: My understanding is that the TeachWild program is essentially a Shell-CSIRO tie-up, but I will have to take on notice if there is any government money put into that. Senator WHISH-WILSON: I did speak to a scientist there that said they did not get any federal funding or they did not think they did. I want to check that. | 48 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | Mr Richardson: I would need to take that on notice. | | | |
| 30 | 1.1: WHMD | Whish-Wilson | TeachWild Funding | Senator WHISH-WILSON: The department website says the Australian government is working in close cooperation with state and territory governments to implement the plan. When was the last time the government met with your state and territory counterparts to discuss the issues on the plan? Mr Richardson: I would have to take that on notice, Senator. I apologise. | 49 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 31 | 1.1: WHMD | Whish-Wilson | GhostNets | Senator WHISH-WILSON: It also said that you are working with Border Protection Command to retrieve ghost nets, which are nets that float at sea that do not have any owners and that do a lot of damage. Are you able to provide any data on how many nets have been collected and what the data is telling you about where they are coming from? Mr Richardson: I would have to take that on notice. | 49 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 32 | 1.1: WHMD | Whish-Wilson | Caring for our Country - Grants for fishing industry | Senator WHISH-WILSON: This is my last question on fishing. Having been on fishing boats and clean beaches in the south-west of Tassie, I know how much fishing gear is actually found in these projects. Is there any government support available for fishing industry bodies to implement measures such as plastic-free fishing or baiting materials? Is there any work going on with biodegradable bags, for example? Mr Sullivan: We may have to take a question like that on notice. Senator WHISH-WILSON: Are there any other initiatives that you can think of that you are discussing or talking with the fishing industry about in terms of their contribution to this problem? Mr Sullivan: My colleagues from the marine area may have additional information for you, Senator. In terms of innovation grants and grants that are available through Caring for Our Country through the agriculture stream, one of the targets is fishing. I am not prejudging the outcome of the processes with respect to the agriculture stream, but that does cover innovation with respect to agriculture as well. | 50 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 33 | 1.1: WHMD | Ruston | Fisheries adjustment package | Ms Musgrave: The conversation has gone on and the government has put out the elements of the package and they are not part of the package. So the view is that the measures, from support to transition plus a sector-wide, fishery-wide element, plus the licence buyout element to enable catch rates and economic sustainability to be maintained, as a suite of measures actually will address any perceived asset value issue. So the asset value question is off the table, in essence. But it is an element that not necessarily all of industry agrees will be addressed by the package. Senator RUSTON: So that currently remains a point of contention between— Dr Dripps: I think it is worth reiterating that there have been a number of answers to questions like this in previous estimates which we would be very happy to provide to | 68 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | you. Senator RUSTON: Thank you | | | |
| 34 | 1.2 PCD/International | Birmingham | International Treaties | Senator BIRMINGHAM: Some treaties have a notice period built into them or the like. Does the whaling convention have that? Ms Petrachenko: I will have to take that on notice, Senator. | 76 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 35 | 1.2: PCD/International | Birmingham | Funding reduction – implications for international whale research | Mr Thompson: The footnote against that line item, Senator, refers to other revenue in addition to appropriation. I think a large part of the explanation for that drop is due to the decline in the international whale science initiative, or the cessation or termination of that line item. That initiative, which you see in the line above under administered expenses includes an amount there, also includes a fairly substantive amount—I do not have the number on me, sorry—in departmental funding which we use for supplier expenses to commission the research that Ms Petrachenko referred to before and to provide some funding to the Antarctic Division to commission work from them. So the end of that program, at least as it is portrayed in the budget papers, is behind a fair amount of the decline between 2013-14 and 2014-15. Senator BIRMINGHAM: Are you able to quantify that at all, Mr Thompson? Mr Thompson: I do not have those numbers on me, Senator, but we can provide that answer to you on notice, if that is okay | 78 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 36 | 1.3 BCD | Birmingham | Biodiversity Fund – Tasmania Forests agreement | Ms Howlett: Under the Tasmanian forests agreement—I believe you were here when I was discussing this with Senator Milne earlier—one of the components was a request by the environmental non-government organisation signatories for a landscape-scale conservation program, and this round of the Biodiversity Fund meets that request. It is part of the Australian government's commitment in support of the implementation of the Tasmanian forests agreement. Senator BIRMINGHAM: Yes, but the agreement did not specify the value of such a program. Ms Howlett: I would have to take that on notice, but the signatories did request a quantum of funding in the order of \$20 million or \$30 million. I cannot recall exactly. | 83 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 37 | 1.3 BCD | Macdonald | Biodiversity Fund – Flying fox | Senator IAN MACDONALD: I am not sure where the Charters Towers city council and their application for funding to address a flying fox problem is, but it is a classic case of the type for which the Biodiversity Fund was set up, as I understand it. I do not think they were even shortlisted. I am interested to know whether they have been told why and been invited to apply again. Can you explain to me—it will have to be on notice, unfortunately—why it is that this application did not even get to first base. I have been told by those who know these things a lot better than I that is a classic case and is just what this fund was made for—it is the northern fund, as well. I would be | 95 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>very interested if you could explain why it was that they were not chosen. I do not know whether you can tell me this, but I am interested to know whether the local member of parliament made submissions either for or, perhaps, against the granting of the funding. You may not be able to tell me that.</p> <p>CHAIR: You can take those on notice.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: I actually don't know, so I will have to take it on notice.</p> | | | |
| 38 | 1.3: BCD | Cameron | National Parks water availability for stock | <p>CHAIR: Dr Dripps, I am not sure if you are the person to ask on this. I want to return to the issue of the national parks and using them for stock that need agistment. I am looking at the New South Wales Department of Primary Industries fact sheet called Primefacts. It indicates the average water requirements of stock. It says that a lactating cow consumes between 40 to 100 litres per day in grassland. In saltbush, it is 70 to 140. Young stock would be 25 to 50. Horses would be 40 to 50. What water in the national parks could stock access if there were an influx of 6,000 head of stock?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: For those parks in Queensland, I would have to take that question on notice. If they were former grazing properties, there may be watering points in place. But I do not have that information here.</p> <p>CHAIR: Are there rivers or streams running through these properties or these parks?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: I do not have that information here with me; I am sorry. My colleague may have further information on the water availability in those parks.</p> <p>CHAIR: Could you also take on notice, if there are rivers or streams, the impact of cattle accessing those streams? Would they degrade the banks? Are there environmental issues associated with tens of thousands of stock going onto a national park?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: I can take that question in a general sense. Undoubtedly there is an impact on rivers and streams from cattle going into them and near them to drink and take water. That is why there are a number of programs across both Commonwealth and state agencies that are involved in fencing water courses to prevent access by stock.</p> | 64/65 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 39 | 1.3: BCD | Birmingham | Biodiversity Fund - rephasing | <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: So the biodiversity fund was announced with an expectation it would be an ongoing program funded annually yet there might be different tranches in terms of the government indicating what that funding in future would be. But short of a government coming along and saying, 'We are axing the biodiversity fund', they would always be refunding it in one way, shape or form. It was originally funded for a six-year profile period, which would have taken it to the end of 2016-17 to the tune of the \$945.8 million that you indicated before, Ms Howlett.</p> <p>Ms Howlett: That is correct, Senator.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: That is all correct. Is it not a little cute to be talking about rephasing \$225 million into the future? Is there a demonstrable increase in what would</p> | 79/80 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>have been available in 2017-18 and 2018-19 than would otherwise have been available as a result of this budget decision?</p> <p>Ms Howlett: Well, Senator, what it means is that there is \$225 million more in those forward years than there was already notionally allocated beyond the forward estimates.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: So what was already notionally allocated in those forward years?</p> <p>Ms Howlett: I do not have that with me, Senator. I will have to take that on notice.</p> | | | |
| 40 | 1.3: BCD | Birmingham | Biodiversity Fund - rephasing | <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Is it possible that all that will be spent in 2017-18 and 2018-19 on the biodiversity fund is \$225 million of so-called rephrased funding?</p> <p>Mr Sullivan: I could answer that in a couple of ways. What will be spent in years beyond the forward estimates would be a matter for the government of the day. My understanding of the notional ongoing budget is that it was reasonably static in profile. We will get you that figure. My understanding is that the \$225 million that has been reprofiled has been reprofiled across those two years in addition to that figure. But I will have to check that and take it on notice, Senator.</p> | 80 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 41 | 1.3: BCD | Birmingham | Biodiversity Fund – Tasmania Forests agreement | <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Thank you. Finally, on Tasmania: Tasmanian projects get their usual fair share of funding out of round 1?</p> <p>Ms Lane: I am not sure I have those details with me. From memory, I think Tasmania had a smaller number of applications and funded projects in round 1 compared to other states, but I would have to take the detail on notice. I do not have the exact number of projects that we funded through round 1 with me.</p> | 84 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 42 | 1.3: BCD | Macdonald | Land Sector Initiatives – Northern Australia Biodiversity Fund | <p>1. How much funding has been allocated to the Aboriginal Ranger Program in 2012/13?</p> <p>a) How much was allocated to this program in 2011/12?</p> <p>b) How much is allocated for 2013/14?</p> <p>c) Is there a similar stewardship program for non-aboriginal pastoralists?</p> <p>2. How much of the funding is allocated to Aboriginal Australians who hold pastoral leases? Does the department consider the distinction?</p> <p>3. What funding/programs have been approved in the past three months (April-June 2013)?</p> <p>a) What is the total dollar value of funding allocated by the department in the December and March quarters 2012/13?</p> <p>b) What was the total amount of funding allocated for the same periods in the 2011/12 year?</p> <p>c) How much departmental funding/grants money remains unallocated for 2012/13?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | d) How much of this funding does the department anticipate allocating by June 30, 2013? 4. Can you provide the full list of organisations that have received funding from the department in the 2012/13 financial year? a) How many of these organisations are not connected to land management? b) What criteria was applied to qualify these non-land management organisations for funding? | | | |
| 43 | 1.3: BCD | Waters | Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy | Re the Implementation Plan for Australia's Biodiversity Conservation Strategy 2010-30, National Reserve System Strategy and Native Vegetation Framework a) What actions has the Department taken to support the preparation of the Implementation Plan? b) Will the Implementation Plan be ready for completion by SCEW by end 2013? c) What indicators (measures) have been proposed for use in the plan (noting that an important set of actions in the strategies is reporting against nationally agreed targets and that the first of the reports on progress towards meeting the targets is due in 2015)? d) What actions has the Department itself taken to implement the three national conservation strategies? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 44 | 1.3: BCD | Waters | National Reserve System | The NRS website states "all Australian governments have agreed to minimum standards that protected areas must meet to be included in and managed the National Reserve System." a) Where is this agreement? b) When was it signed off? c) What is its current status? d) Please provide a copy. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 45 | 1.3: BCD | Waters | National Reserve System | The website also states that NRS land must be designated a 'protected area' to be conserved forever (legally), and must be managed to protect and maintain biological diversity according to one of six international classes developed by the World Conservation Union (IUCN) – none of which identify large scale mining as being appropriate. Why is the Department assessing a proposal to completely destroy an NRS property (Bimblebox) given this clear commitment? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 46 | 1.3: BCD | Waters | National Reserve System | Does the Department agree that either or both of these statements could mislead the public about: a) the Australian and state and territory Government's legal framework for protecting the NRS? If not, please provide reasoning; and b) and the regulatory protections provided to the National Reserve System? If not, please provide reasoning. | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| 47 | 2.1: EQD | Milne | SGGs – Details of correspondence provided to insurance companies | <p>Dr Wright: In addition, we have formally written to the insurance companies to raise this matter with them, because usually with the write-off of vehicles it is a matter that the insurance companies need to be aware of and deal with, so we have sought to engage with them to deal with it at that point in the chain.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: What have you asked the insurance companies to do?</p> <p>Dr Wright: I do not have the correspondence with me. I would need to check and take that on notice.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: We are happy to take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator MILNE: Can you take that on notice? Essentially, while all the vehicles are parked side by side before they go to auction would be the most appropriate place to do it; when they are all there, and you could do it in the most cost-effective way, rather than when it gets to your individual recyclers and whatever. All it would require is some pressure on the insurance companies to get them to agree that these vehicles all have to be degassed prior to auction, consistent with the law. Why hasn't that happened?</p> <p>Senator MILNE: When did you write to the insurance companies?</p> <p>Dr Wright: Unfortunately, I do not have those details with me but we are happy to take it on notice.</p> | 86/87 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 48 | 2.1: EQD | Singh | Rotterdam Convention - Funding | <p>Senator SINGH: Thank you. On a related matter of administration, according to the current status of contributions to the general trust fund of the operational budget of the Rotterdam Convention Australia has not paid its assessed contribution pledges from prior to 2012. Is that correct?</p> <p>Mr McNee: No, I do not think that is accurate. I will take that on notice, but as far as I am aware we are fully up to date. In fact, we would not have been able to participate actively in the meeting.</p> | 89 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 49 | 2.1: EQD | Birmingham | SGGs – Advice on reminder notices | <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: How many written reminders from the department would they have received between their failure to lodge and the department proceeding with court action?</p> <p>Dr Wright: We have standard operating procedures on the steps involved as you escalate compliance. We do not have the specific details for you in the room.</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: There are reminder notices as I said, before and afterwards, and indeed one of the last steps we do is to send a letter by registered post that guarantees it is delivered. Only after we get no response to that do we consider further action such as injunctive action.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Have the court orders been granted?</p> <p>Mr Dadswell: I am not sure. I am sorry, I am going to have to take that on notice.</p> | 93 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 50 | 2.1: EQD | Di Natale | CRIS | <i>The Commonwealth Government recently published a Consultation Regulatory Impact</i> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | Woodheaters - reducing emissions from wood heaters | <p><i>Statement for reducing emissions from wood heaters, which states that Australian wood heaters emit an estimated 40,000 tonnes of particulate air pollution every year, with estimated health costs of \$263,000 per tonne for emissions in capital cities, and \$111,300 per tonne in smaller regional cities.</i></p> <p>1. Given these figures would the Department agree with the assertion that these figures imply a total estimated health burden of \$20 to \$24 billion for woodsmoke pollution in Australia over the next 20 years?</p> <p>a) If the Department disagrees with this figure please provide an alternate estimate for the estimated health burden of woodsmoke pollution in Australia over the next 20 years based on relevant figures from the Regulatory Impact Statement, and please fully explain the methodology and assumptions used to arrive at this figure.</p> <p>b) Does the Department agree with the assertion that an accurate estimate or projection of the health burden of wood heaters would enhance public understanding of the proposals in the Federal Government's wood heater Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement?</p> <p>c) If, despite the detailed projections of health costs in the Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement, the Department asserts that estimates of the health burden of wood heaters cannot be quantified, can the Department please describe what additional calculations and inputs would be required to quantify this?</p> <p>2. When drafting the Commonwealth Regulatory Impact Statement was the Department aware of the NSW Woodsmoke Control Options report (available at http://www.environment.nsw.gov.au/woodsmoke/smokecontrolopts.htm)?</p> <p>a) If not why not?</p> <p>b) If so, how did the findings of this Report inform the drafting of the Regulatory Impact Statement? Were these findings incorporated into the draft at all? Please provide concrete examples if so.</p> <p>3. Does the Department agree that the analysis performed in the NSW Woodsmoke Control Options report is similar, applicable and relevant to the Consultation Regulatory Impact Statement?</p> <p>a) Did the Department consult with the authors of the NSW Woodsmoke Control Options report? Please provide a detailed summary of any such consultations and please provide evidence that these consultations occurred.</p> <p>b) Is the Department aware that the NSW Woodsmoke Control Options report found that the 3 most cost-effective woodsmoke control options in NSW (these measures being 1) phasing out wood heaters when houses are sold, 2) not allowing new wood heaters to be installed and 3) introducing wood heater licencing fees) could reduce the health costs of woodsmoke pollution in NSW by about 75%? And that they would</p> | | | |

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| | | | | likely achieve similar benefits for the whole of Australia, i.e. reduce Australian health costs by nearly \$1 billion per year? Why was this information omitted from the Regulatory Impact Statement? 4. Has the Department considered, been asked to consider, or performed any modelling on any of the following measures (please table any such modelling, reports or other like documents if they exist): a) introducing a strict health-based standard for wood heater b) providing industry assistance to develop new wood heaters to satisfy a health-based standard? c) introducing a moratorium on the installation of wood heaters that do not meet the health-based standard? d) introducing a National Woodsmoke Education program and providing assistance to develop and promote other affordable home heating methods such as solar air heaters, pellet heaters and heat pumps? | | | |
| 51 | 2.2: SPAD | Birmingham | Suburban Jobs Program – Penrith, Melton, Playford – ownership of buildings | Mr Flanigan: At University of Western Sydney, the principle aim is, once a facility is constructed, to encourage knowledge businesses to set up in the facility and partner with the academic skill of the university and try to grow businesses from a partnership between start-up companies and the university's skills set. That is the focus there. Playford is a little more focused on training and passing skills out to the broader community. So they are all slightly different in their nature and the tenants in the buildings will be slightly different, as a consequence. Senator BIRMINGHAM: Who will own the buildings at the conclusion of construction? Mr Flanigan: The University of Western Sydney building will be owned by the university. The Melton one I think will be owned by the Melton authority, the local government, but they are looking to running the facility as a body corporate, an incorporated body, and I cannot recall who ended up owning the building in Playford. We think the Playford building will be owned, in the end, by the local government. Mrs Wiley-Smith: We will check that one and take it on notice. | 96 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 52 | 3.1: AAD | Birmingham | Aurora Australis – funding beyond forward estimates | Senator BIRMINGHAM: Thank you. In terms of funding for the <i>Aurora Australis</i> , is there confidence that the funding provided will be all that is necessary over the forward estimates to at least maintain its life until 2016-17? Dr Wooding: Yes. Senator BIRMINGHAM: Perhaps on notice—you can work out what you can and cannot tell me—you could provide details on who the consultants are and who the contractors are assisting you in the tender and what the costs associated with the tender or the request for proposals to date have been. That would be appreciated. | 101 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| 53 | 4.1: WED | Joyce | Menindee – funding to date | Senator JOYCE: So could I get the number of how much we have spent at Menindee? Ms Harwood: The expenditure to date at Menindee—that is, all the technical studies and work so far—is around \$24 million. I can get you a precise figure. | 6 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 54 | 4.1: WED | Joyce | Geoscience Australia - aquifer | Senator JOYCE: I am interested to know how you go about doing that. This is not a trick question. How do you go about finding out whether taking water from the bottom aquifer might affect the top aquifers? Mr McLoughlin: As part of the work, Geoscience Australia drilled test bores in the areas and put data loggers in the bores. They have been watching the height of those aquifers over the last two years or so in various places. The pump testing would need to determine what the response of the aquifer was to a draw down in terms of what the water table did in response to pumping. Senator JOYCE: Do you generally find that there is a bit of a response effect—what is your terminology for it?—in the upper aquifers? Mr McLoughlin: I assume that there would be, but I am starting to get out of my technical depth here. That is maybe a question that we can take on notice for Geoscience Australia. Senator JOYCE: Is that a unique feature just down there or would that be a pertinent feature of most aquifers—that if you take water from the bottom aquifer it affects the aquifers above? Mr McLoughlin: I think that is a question we would take on notice. It is one of those things that would be dependent on the geology of the area and the aquifer concerned, I would have thought. | 7 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 55 | 4.1: WED | Xenophon | River Murray Improvement Program - Riverland | Senator XENOPHON: Can I ask the minister whether the government can provide a guarantee that this funding will make it to the Riverland before 14 September? Senator Farrell: You can ask me, Senator, but I would have to consult with the minister himself about that. I cannot give a statement on his behalf. Senator XENOPHON: Sure; if you could take that on notice. | 23 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 56 | 4.1: WED | Xenophon | On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program – auditing requirements | Senator XENOPHON: I guess my direct question was: has the department not finalised all the auditing agreements with delivery partners? Ms Harwood: I might just ask my colleague. If you are referring to the existing delivery partners, I will check that. The auditing requirements are actually specified in the contracts with the delivery partners where we have got to the contract stage. The answer is that, for those, the auditing requirements are in place and agreed in the contract. For delivery partners who are still to come under contract with us—for instance, the ones under round three—their contracts will specify the auditing requirements, but those contracts are not made yet. For the projects in train, rolling out under contract, yes, there are auditing requirements in place and they are specified in | 24/25 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>the contractual arrangements with the delivery partner.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Without breaching any commercial-in-confidence requirements—there must be, I presume, generic auditing requirements—are you able to provide copies of those?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: We could provide you with copies of the standard clauses, yes.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Yes, that would be useful. In terms of assessing the merit criteria regarding the competitive grants model basis for these efficiency programs, you are saying that all the auditing agreements are in place?</p> | | | |
| 57 | 4.1: WED | Xenophon | On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program – auditing requirements | <p>Senator XENOPHON: Do you not have to look at the merit criteria and tie that in with the auditing requirements to make sure that there will be a robustness in terms of whether the merit criteria are achieved or not?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: If you are talking about an assessment of the commercial viability of the enterprise applying to be a delivery partner, yes, that forms part of the assessment on the way in. It is not so much audit as ensuring that they are capable, professional, and have the skills necessary to deliver the tranche.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: Can you outline—I am happy for you to take this on notice because we have limited time—what documents delivery partners provide to the department to demonstrate that appropriate auditing of projects have occurred?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: Yes, we will take that on notice.</p> | 25 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 58 | 4.1: WED | Xenophon | On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program | <p>Senator XENOPHON: Can the department provide advice on how much delivery partners receive for the administration of projects? For instance, is it on a sliding scale based on the amount awarded? Is there an acceptable or benchmark percentage of total funding awarded? Are there any rules in place to ensure that projects do not allocate an unreasonable amount on administration costs? Finally, how can you be sure, if all projects do not have their auditing arrangements robustly in place?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: We will provide a more comprehensive answer on notice. In essence, there is a sort of benchmark of eight per cent; that would be the normal maximum that we would allow in a contract for project administration costs as opposed to funds going to projects on-farm. We were talking earlier about that. For most infrastructure projects, in that six to eight per cent tends to be where the project administration costs fall.</p> | 25 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 59 | 4.1: WED | Xenophon | Stormwater Program | <p>Senator XENOPHON: Sure. Finally—Chair, I am within time, you will be pleased to know—an agreement was entered into with the government in 2009 in relation to an additional allocation of stormwater harvesting grants projects. The criteria were altered to encourage more local projects. Can you outline—now or on notice—what the progress has been in relation to the allocation of that additional funding for stormwater projects, particularly allowing for those smaller community-based projects, rather than</p> | 25 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>having much higher criteria?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: The third round of the stormwater program closed at the end of 2011. Then in 2012 the nine successful in-principle grants were announced. Of those, eight have taken up the funding offer. Those projects are in train and under contract. I can read out the funding recipients, if you want.</p> <p>Senator XENOPHON: No. Because of time constraints, I would be grateful if the department could provide that on notice, and obviously a breakdown of where those projects are and, further, what unallocated funds there are in respect of that stormwater program.</p> | | | |
| 60 | 4.1: WED | Birmingham | SDL adjustment mechanisms | <p>Ms Harwood: I think the volume of water purchased in those years will be affected by a number of factors. One is how much of the 650 gigalitres of SDL offsets are achieved through the SDL adjustment mechanism when that applies in 2016, and we will not know that until 2016. The second is: how much water will we secure under contract in infrastructure projects? The more yield we get from infrastructure projects, the less that needs to be purchased. So there will be a significant review point in 2016 as to the remaining quantum of water purchase required to bridge the gap to 2,750 by 2019.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: How much of the 239 or 280, whichever it is, would you expect to acquire over the period of the forward estimates to 2016-17?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: I will take that on notice because I would need to do some estimations in terms of the likely yield from the available expenditure profile through to the end of the estimates.</p> | 33 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 61 | 4.1: WED | Joyce | Value of asset | <p>Senator JOYCE: What will be the value of your asset at the end? How much water will be the book value? What do you anticipate to be the ultimate value that you will have on the books for your water by the time the plan is completed?</p> <p>Mr Papps: I am not able to answer that at the moment; it is not information that we have available. I can take it on notice.</p> | 40 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 62 | 4.1: WED | Heffernan | Wah Wah scheme | <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: What I am curious about is that the Wah Wah scheme is a channel scheme that comes out the back end of the irrigation area. There are 9,000 megs in the allocation for the conveyance. They are going to pipe it, which is a good idea. But they are paying \$4,200 a meg for that water, which is conveyance water, and \$2,200 a meg—same water, different scheme, the Darcoola scheme. Who decides the price of water?</p> <p>Mr Parker: I would have to take that on notice. The price of water which comes out of irrigation infrastructure projects depends very much on the composition of the project and the investment.</p> | 45/46 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 63 | 4.1: WED | Joyce | On-Farm Irrigation | <p>Ms Harwood: I could work through those in detail, but the major projects that have</p> | 8 | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | Efficiency Program | <p>water efficiency savings for which the Commonwealth has received a share for the environment would include the Northern Victorian Irrigation Renewal Project and the Private Irrigation Infrastructure Operators Program, which is now all under contract. The Commonwealth On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program has substantial yields of water. The first two rounds of that are well underway. Some of the projects are completed, and the third round will be under contract soon. Then there are other state priority projects which yield water, including the Queensland on-farm program. The New South Wales farm modernisation program is getting underway with the first tranches of contracts there, and the pilot for that program yielded water. The early projects in the Basin Pipe program in New South Wales will be bringing their yields forward, and the private irrigation infrastructure program in South Australia has also yielded water savings for the Commonwealth. I can provide you with a detailed list of the sorts—</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: I suppose what everyone is interested in really is what it adds up to.</p> <p>Ms Harwood: The water recovery through infrastructure as of 30 of April is 313 gegalitres.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: How much did you spend doing it?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: I should say also that that went up just a couple of weeks ago by another 30 gegalitres because the final contract came in with Murrumbidgee irrigation.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: So we are up to 343. How much have you spent to get that 343?</p> <p>Ms Harwood: I will take that on notice. I would need to add up all the contracts that go with that 313.</p> | (29/05/13) | | |
| 64 | 4.1: WED | Joyce | Twynam purchase | <p>Senator JOYCE: Where did you make your biggest loss? Which purchase was the worst one?</p> <p>Mr Costello: The impairment figure looks at the holdings as a whole. I have not broken it down.</p> <p>Senator JOYCE: How about the Twynam purchase? What is the value of that on the books now?</p> <p>Mr Costello: I would have to take that on notice. I do not have that.</p> | 44 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 65 | 4.1: WED | Hanson-Young | Budgeted Water entitlement purchase | <p><i>Our information is that it is \$90.8m in 2013-14, growing to over \$200m in 2016-17, but this is not clear in the budget papers. Good to get it on record considering pressures on the buyback program/attacks on the buyback program.</i></p> <p>Can you tell us how much is budgeted for water entitlement purchase in this year and each year in the forward estimates.</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 66 | 4.1: WED | Macdonald | Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure | <p><i>In answer to Questions on Notice at Supplementary Estimates in October 2012 (Supp Estimates QON 93) the department advised that as at Sept 30 2012 \$360million in SRWUIP funding remained unallocated.</i></p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | Program – River Murray Improvement Program | <p><i>In answer to Questions on Notice at Additional Estimates in February 2013, the department advised that half of this figure (\$180 million) remained to be allocated and that the other half (\$180 million) had been allocated to a single project, the River Murray Improvement Program.</i></p> <p>Can the department advise if the remaining \$180 million has been allocated?</p> <p>a) Is the process for receiving SRWUIP finding one of application and approval, or does the department determine independently where/to which program the funding should be allocated?</p> <p>b) Can the department advise if any programs other than the River Murray Improvement Program were in consideration for, or had applied for the funding?</p> <p>c) How much of the 2012/13 funding will have been allocated in QLD, WA and NT?</p> | | | |
| 67 | 4.1: WED | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Water recovery | How much additional water is CEWO anticipating will be recovered and placed under its control by the end of the 2013/14 financial year? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 68 | 4.1: WRD | Whish-Wilson | Caring for our Country | <p>Dr Grimes: I will say a couple of things here, just building on what Mr Sullivan has mentioned. Of course, many of the responsibilities here are responsibilities of local authorities, state governments and local governments. You have drawn attention to the fact that this is a significant issue, and the government recognises that it is a significant issue. So the government has made that a focus in the next round of Caring for Our Country. Ultimately, at the end of the day, the broadscale response really requires action by all levels of government. In many cases, differences in different parts of the country will be able to be explained by different state and local policies.</p> <p>Senator WHISH-WILSON: Has that been discussed during the COAG process recently in any particular area in terms of cooperation on that? Obviously it is a big issue overseas as well and it does seem to work. It is not 100 per cent effective, but it makes a difference.</p> <p>Dr Grimes: It is certainly an area where we have had definitely informal conversations with colleagues in state governments. I do not know whether any of our colleagues here this afternoon might be able to provide you with further information on other discussions or work that may have gone on. Otherwise we can take matters on notice.</p> | 50 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 69 | 5.1: WHMD | Cameron | Nomination of 18 th century Civic Square | <p>CHAIR: If it is the only 18th century civic square in Australia, and if we cannot get a heritage listing, there must be reasons for that. Take on notice to provide details of the reasoning why this unique and rare example of early Australian settlement is not considered of heritage value.</p> <p>Ms Rankin: We will do that.</p> | 48 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| 70 | 5.1: WHMD | Cameron | Amateur hunting in the Goulburn River national park | CHAIR: So you have conceded that there could be someone killed in the Blue Mountains World Heritage area because of this amateur hunting that is going on in the Goulburn River national park. Can you take on notice and provide me details of what actions we could take at the federal level to try to minimise someone who is using the Blue Mountains World Heritage area in a recognised way not being killed by some amateur shooter in the Goulburn River national park? Dr Dripps: We can certainly make inquiries about that and take that question on notice. | 51 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 71 | 5.1: WHMD | Ludlam | WHMD - staffing | Senator LUDLAM: I do not want to traverse ground that Senator Waters covered yesterday if it is already on the record. I am specifically interested in the heritage side of the portfolio. Is it possible to carve out how many fewer people are working on heritage post budget than before, or is that not possible? Dr Dripps: We would like to take that question on notice, if we could, please, Senator. Senator LUDLAM: In the last four years, how many people in total have been cut from heritage? Maybe take that as a supplementary on notice, if you like. | 51 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 72 | 5.1: WHMD | Ludlam | World Heritage Listing for the Burrup | Senator LUDLAM: In the interests of time, because I have one other question on a different matter, could you provide us in writing and on notice any other information regarding the Commonwealth's policy on World Heritage listing for the Burrup? I have framed that very broadly. Anything at all you can tell us beyond the fact that you have put the ball back into the court of the Murujuga association | 52 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 73 | 1.3: BCD | Colbeck | ICOMOS report to the World Heritage Commission | Senator COLBECK: Do you consider that clause 40 from the RFA has been given full consideration as part of the nomination? Dr Dripps: I am sorry, but I do not have the RFA in front of me, Senator. Can we take that question on notice? | 57 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 74 | 5.1: WHMD | Waters | World Heritage Committee – Great Barrier Reef | Senator WATERS: Given about a year or so ago the World Heritage Committee expressed extreme concern—their words—about the reef, has the minister requested advice on whether there are any other issues arising with the management of our other World Heritage properties? Dr Dripps: I do not recall the minister specifically asking for that advice, Senator. Senator WATERS: If you could just take on notice and double-check, that would be helpful. | 58 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 75 | 5.1: WHMD | Waters | Emergency Heritage Listing | Senator WATERS: The Legacy Mine Water program. Dr Dripps: I am not aware of consultation that may have occurred yesterday, Senator. We can take that question on notice. Senator WATERS: Or obviously consultation prior to the announcement yesterday. Thank you. Have you advised the minister, either at your own initiative or in response | 59 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | | to a request from the minister, about the potential environmental impacts on matters of national environmental significance from the repeal of those wild river declarations? Dr Dripps: I can recall a number of verbal discussions with the minister on that matter. We would have to take on notice whether there were specific briefings. Senator WATERS: Has advice around an emergency heritage listing been provided to the minister for any of those formerly declared wild rivers? Dr Dripps: We would have to take that question on notice, Senator. We are not immediately aware. Senator WATERS: Have you advised the minister on any other ways to protect those rivers using the means available to the federal government? Dr Dripps: I think we will need to wrap that question up with the others we have taken on notice, Senator. | | | |
| 76 | 5.1: WHMD | Singh | Cascades Female Factory previous QoNs | Dr Dripps: Senator, if I recall the answer to the question last year, that deed of agreement was made at a very long time in the past. So the officers here are not able to explain to you why it was that the required activity did not occur at that time. Senator SINGH: So why did 2009 get decided as the date to do the handover without meeting the requirements in the deed? Dr Dripps: I do not think we have the information available here to answer the question, Senator, I am sorry. We will have to take that further question on notice. | 60 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 77 | 5.1: WHMD | Colbeck | Fisheries Adjustment Assistance Package – Transitional Business Assistance | How is the Transitional Business Assistance program development progressing? a) Is the program being run by SEWPaC b) Is any assistance being provided by DAFF c) What knowledge of industry does SEWPaC have? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 78 | 5.1: WHMD | Colbeck | Fisheries Adjustment Assistance Package | Given that the payment of capital items is pushed to 2017, what are operators that have lost access to their livelihood to do? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 79 | 5.1: WHMD | Colbeck | Fisheries Adjustment Assistance Package | How is that in mining and oil and gas the right to prospect is compensable and yet for a fishing right that is lost over an area that is still be explored and developed there is nothing? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 80 | 5.1: WHMD | Milne | Tarkine – Socio-economic | In making this decision to not act on the Australian Heritage Councils overwhelming recommendations (5 outstanding values of natural heritage) of the Tarkine Heritage | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | implications | values, and instead take the position put by the Tasmanian State Governments in their submission on <i>'Potential socio-economic implications for Tasmania of the proposed National Heritage listing of the Tarkine:</i> 1. What level of job creation on the proposed mines in the Tarkine will be from fly in fly out workers? 2. What research has been undertaken to assess the level of local skills in mining exist in the Tarkine area, that will see local employment occur on these all too frequently short lived proposed mines? | | | |
| 81 | 5.1: WHMD | Milne | Tarkine – Assessment of new mines | 1. In the assessment of socio-economic impacts of allowing new mines in the Tarkine, what economic consideration were taken into account of the costs of managing the waste legacy from these short lived mines (some expected to have a 2-5 year lifespan), both on environmental and community health? 2. What assessment was done into the long term economic gains to Tasmanian for global tourism and regional towns in the Tarkine region? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 82 | 5.1: WHMD | Milne | Tarkine – Statement of Reasons | Minister Burke stated in his Statement of Reason for decision that 'inclusion of the assessed place on the National Heritage List could increase the perceived level of sovereign risk in the Tasmanian Minerals sector and damage the investment reputation of Tasmania' a) What assessment has or was undertaken into the economic impacts on the growing Tarkine tourism industry of knowingly damaging a part of Tasmania that CNN ranked as the worlds' best wilderness experience, by allowing a multitude of new mines in this region? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 83 | 5.1: WHMD | Milne | Tarkine – Research and assessment | The minister stated allowing the proposed mines in the Tarkine region 'would result in the remaining area no longer qualifying as the most extensive and least fragmented area of cool temperate rainforest in Australia nor as containing areas of extensive high-quality wilderness.' a) What research has been undertaken to estimate the marketing and financial impact on 'Brand Tasmania', especially the agricultural, and primary and tourism industries that rely on Tasmania's 'clean, green clever' image, that wide-scale mining activity in the Tarkine region will affect? b) The so-called mining boom across Australia is ending. What assessment has been made into the viability of many of these small and short to medium term proposed mines (many of which are iron ore) that will be proliferate the North West of Tasmania in the face of the mining down turn? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 84 | 5.2: EACD | Cameron | Detailed graph related to coal | CHAIR: Can I then propose that what you do is take this on notice and provide us a graph or a detailed plan on how this works. In a graphical way would be good, so we | 26/27 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | seam gas requirements | can have a quick look at it. Senator HEFFERNAN: And table what he is reading from. CHAIR: Yes, and table what you are reading from. I would rather get a schematic that we can look at, if that is possible. Maybe we will stop there. We will deal with the science and then we will go to Senator Heffernan. | | | |
| 85 | 5.2: EACD | Heffernan | Storage facilities | Senator HEFFERNAN: Twenty million tonnes for the life of the known tenement. If I were in charge, if I were in charge of the Murray-Darling Basin, I would be saying do not store it in Australia's most productive area, the Murray-Darling Basin. You do not know what they are going to do with it. We do not know. Mr Gaddes: Would you like me to provide advice, on notice, because I do not have the details of each of the storage facilities to hand— Senator HEFFERNAN: I do. Never ask a question unless you know the answer. Mr Gaddes: I can provide some documentation for you. | 27/28 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 86 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Hydraulic fracturing – information provided during the recent committee hearing EPBC Amendment Bill | Senator WATERS: I want to take you also to your bullet points there about information relating to hydraulic fracturing. You have listed two items there which need to be examined in a stage 1 water plan in relation to fracking issues. What is not listed there is the environmental impact of the mobilising of naturally occurring BTEX by the fracking process itself. Evidence was given to this committee in the course of my bill—or it might have been the government's water bill; one of the water bills—which was to the effect that fracking can mobilise naturally occurring BTEX. That is not included on your list here of issues that companies have to address in their plans. Is there an intention to revise this list and add that? Dr Dripps: We regularly revise these kinds of lists as new information comes to light. I am happy to take on notice what we have done with that particular evidence from the inquiry. I am not personally familiar with exactly what we have done with that. | 37 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 87 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Legacy Mine Water Program | Senator WATERS: Thank you. Particularly given that that program was extended yesterday, in fact, was the minister or the department consulted by the Queensland government on the extension of that program? Dr Dripps: Which program is that, Senator? Senator WATERS: The Legacy Mine Water program. Dr Dripps: I am not aware of consultation that may have occurred yesterday, Senator. We can take that question on notice. | 58 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 88 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | QGC project – management plans | Dr Dripps: Senator, as we indicated earlier, it is not uncommon to approve projects with subsequent management plans that are required to be approved before various pieces of work are undertaken. So our role is to identify the environmental outcomes that need to be achieved by these projects and then to ensure that an appropriate | 73 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>framework of environmental management is in place before the work substantively commences.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: On that point, I am interested in whether the department has either done any work itself or sought any external advice on whether adaptive management, which is clearly what is being employed here, is or is not consistent with the precautionary principle.</p> <p>Dr Dripps: I think we would have to take that question on notice. I do not have the policy officers immediately available to answer that question.</p> | | | |
| 89 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Gladstone Proposal – modelling used | <p>Senator WATERS: Thank you. I want to move now to the reef. We heard from GBRMPA yesterday that they are now conducting their own modelling of dredging and dump spoil movement and they are now looking at deep ocean currents and 3D modelling, which is a welcome development. They are doing that for the Abbot Point proposal. My question goes to whether the Gladstone proposal was subject to modelling that looked at both 3D and deep ocean current effects on dredging and dumping.</p> <p>Dr Dripps: Senator, as Dr Reichelt advised yesterday, there is a project that is funded out of the regional sustainability program that GBRMPA is undertaking on our behalf to do further monitoring. We would have to take on notice and check the documents surrounding the approvals of dredging in Gladstone Harbour to be able to answer the question around precisely which modelling was used to inform that decision.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Dr Dripps, is there anyone here that would be able to answer that? Given it has been subject to such concern by UNESCO, I am sure the department is able to shed some light rather than just take it on notice.</p> <p>Dr Dripps: No. I am sorry, Senator. That decision was taken in 2010, I believe, so we do not have documentation on that decision with us here. We can call back to the branch and give it a go.</p> | 73 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 90 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Marine strategic assessment – Reports on the impact of dredging and dumping | <p>Senator WATERS: Earlier, Ms Colreavy, you said it had been given to parties. I was only aware that it had been given to the Queensland Ports Association for consultation. What other parties have received a copy of those draft reports?</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: I think it was Queensland Ports Association and NQBP.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Well, they are the proponent.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: They are party to it. I cannot remember. I will have to get back to you, I think.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: If you could, because I am concerned that it has been a highly selective consultation so far. I am interested in who has had the chance to eyeball it.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: Bear in mind, Senator, that these reports have been formulated for the purpose of being put out for public consultation. There is room for further comment</p> | 75 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | and for further adjustment. | | | |
| 91 | 5.2: EACD | Macdonald | EPBC Act – Self assessment guidance | <p>Mr Gaddes: That letter most likely came from the compliance and enforcement branch. So the wording of the letter is normally that if you have any uncertainty, you should refer the matter to the department for assessment and decision. If you do not refer it, then you could be subject to substantial penalties. So generally we say to people, 'Look, here's the way you can self-assess whether or not you need to refer it to the department for approval. If you decide after that that you do not want to refer it, then you could be subject to penalties.' So we provide them with advice and always say, 'If you are in any doubt, you should refer it to the department for approval.' So it is not really leaving them—</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Thanks. I think they did ask and they were told, 'You self-assess.' Anyhow, we will work this out. I would be interested in getting the advice you would give on the removal of bats and how you would self-assess.</p> | 78 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 92 | 5.2: EACD | Ludlam | Wiluna uranium project – mine closure plan | <p>Senator LUDLAM: But how much work around mine closure had been assessed by the minister? Presumably, something must have been done or he would not have had the confidence to give this thing the tick, even a conditional tick?</p> <p>Ms Jones: Through the assessment process there were assessment documentation in draft and final form. Supplementary information was sought by the minister from the proponent on issues that cut across this matter. To give a succinct response, I would probably have to take that on notice and come back to you, Senator.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: Maybe if you could, yes. I am interested in the degree to which the approval conditions side is open-ended. Does it have any lapse date at all, or is this an approval in eternity? If the company comes back in 20 years, will it be live, or does it have a lapse date?</p> | 79 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 93 | 5.2: EACD | Ludlam | Best practice standards for storing contaminated materials | <p>Senator LUDLAM: Let me phrase this in a different way. I want to get down to what standards of best practice actually mean. Otherwise this is not worth the paper it is printed on. Do current standards of best practice mean lining the base of the tailings dam so that water does not simply fall straight through the floor of the facility? Would that be one example of best practice?</p> <p>Mr Knudson: I would point out that in terms of providing our advice to the minister, we sought a number of external sources of advice, including from Geoscience Australia, the Australian Radiation Protection and Nuclear Safety Association and the Office of the Supervising Scientist. They would be in a far better position to provide the exact details on individual best practice. We would certainly be happy to take this question on notice and come back to you if there are particular areas of what is considered best practice that you would like to have a better understanding of. We could come back on that.</p> | 80 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>Senator LUDLAM: I suspect that if I chase Geoscience Australia, they will refer me straight back to you as soon as I refer to this project. I am not trying to be cute here. I am also not trying to cloud the issue. It is a very specific issue. When you talk about best practice—I am actually more interested in your view; you are doing the assessment—does that mean contaminated water laced with radionuclides and other chemical contaminants should be allowed to fall and seep through the floor of the dam, as is current practice at other uranium mines in Australia or not? It just means lining it. That is the question.</p> <p>Ms Jones: Again, we would like to take that on notice because I am confident that this issue was looked at as part of the assessment process. I would like the opportunity to review that aspect of the assessment and come back to you.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: I will ask you to take this on notice and then we will move on. If you want to refer back to Geoscience Australia, that is fine, I guess. What is the department's understanding of what current standards are best practice for tailings storage for this sort of contaminated material? What would it actually look like?</p> | | | |
| 94 | 5.2: EACD | Heffernan | Tailings Dam – Assessment process – conditions of bond | <p>Ms Jones: The minister has required a capacity to apply a bond over and above what the Western Australian government will require, albeit that is yet to be—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: And when is the bond retrievable?</p> <p>Ms Jones: When is the bond retrievable? I am unable to answer that, Senator, because—</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN: You might take that on notice.</p> | 81 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 95 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Abbot Point draft reports | <p>Senator WATERS: Dr Dripps, is there an intention to release those reports before the decision is made?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: I have not got the information to hand, Senator. The reports are being prepared for a couple of parallel processes, that you are aware of, that are occurring in Queensland. I can take that on notice and possibly cover it off with the officers who are here tomorrow afternoon and who are handling that assessment.</p> | 30 (28/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 96 | 5.2: EACD | Macdonald | Abbot Point Fisheries | <p>What action has been taken by the Department to act upon the concerns raised by the Seafood Industry Association regarding sustainability at Abbot Point?</p> <p>a) Is the Minister and the Department working with ALL stakeholders to achieve a sustainable result?</p> <p>b) Have the Minister and the Department sought input from interests in the Infrastructure/Transport and Minerals/Resources spaces to develop a sustainable plan for the region?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 97 | 5.2: EACD | Milne | Tarkine – Emergency | <i>Minister Burke allowed the Emergency National Heritage Listing of the Tarkine to lapse in December 2010 resulting in the ability for mining exploration in the Tarkine to</i> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | National Heritage Listing – Tasmanian Devils | <p><i>proceed without requiring EPBCA permits.</i></p> <p><i>Since this time a legal case has been brought forward by a community campaign group Save The Tarkine (STT, formerly Tarkine National Coalition) questioning the Minister approving a mine that he acknowledged would have a negative effect on the endangered Tasmanian Devil, and has attempted to offset the impact by applying a financial penalty for every devil killed above 2 within a one year period. This is contrary to the EPBC Act, and Save the Tarkine is challenging that in the Federal Court.</i></p> <p><i>Since the beginning of this case, the plaintiff company Shree Minerals has broken undertakings given to the Federal Court that they would not commence works on the mine while the case is in front of the court. Shree Minerals are now under a court imposed injunction on any further works on the site.</i></p> <p>In approving mining operations it is admitted there will be deaths as a direct result of mining development, traffic and operations of the last population of Tasmanian Devils that are currently free of the fatal Devil Facial Tumor. What level of consideration was given to the endangered status of the Tasmanian Devil, and the impact on their chances of survival in the wild by not providing protection to the habitat of this last disease free population?</p> | | | |
| 98 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | EPBC Regulatory matters | There have been reports of a major oil spill at Santos Cooper Basin project in south western Queensland. What if any steps has the Department taken to investigate this issue and its possible impacts on EPBC protected matters? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 99 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Whitehaven Coal | <p>Given that the investigation has gone through the preliminary stage and determined that there is a case to answer, what effect does this have on Whitehaven's approval, and their ability to progress their project?</p> <p>a) Will this investigation also include an independent review of Boggabri Coal's offsets?</p> <p>b) If the Department finds that EPBCA approval was given on the basis of false and misleading information, would that enable the approval to be revoked?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 100 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Whitehaven Coal | <p>Whitehaven has lodged a modification application for the Maules Creek Coal Project with the NSW Department of Planning, wherein they say that the modification does not require EPBCA referral because the affected vegetation is not EEC grasslands. Does this not cast doubt on the company's claims that surrounding properties are all EEC woodlands and grasslands?</p> <p>a) Will there be an independent review to determine whether the modification does in fact require an EPBCA referral?</p> <p>b) If the independent assessment of the surface and groundwater assessment finds that the impacts on protected matters are too significant, what status will the conditional</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | | approval have? | | | |
| 101 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Whitehaven Coal | The NSW Department of Planning has confirmed that Whitehaven have requirements and further work to complete that will mean that they cannot clear any forest for two years. Nevertheless, the company is repeatedly telling the stockmarket that they will have the first shipment of coal by mid-2014. Is the Department of SEWPAC aware of this, and if so, will they refer this issue to the Australian Securities and Investments Commission for investigation? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 102 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Fitzroy Delta Project | Re the Fitzroy terminal project (EPBC /6069), it's clear from materials that have been released under FOI that the Department received advice from GBRMPA on 31 August 2011 stating that their preliminary risk assessment of this project identified seven risks associated with this project that they determined would have "extreme" consequences for the GBR Marine Park and the GBR WHA. Yet on 5 September 2011, the Department did not make a decision that the project was "clearly unacceptable", but rather allowed the project assessment to continue. Why didn't the delegate determine this project was clearly unacceptable? a) Did the Department brief the Minister or his office on this controlled action decision before it was made? b) What guidance is there for either the Minister or delegates as to when a referral should be deemed clearly acceptable? Please provide copies of all relevant guidance materials. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 103 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | CSG Expert Panel | Please advise what the role of the IESC is in the EPBC assessment process, in terms of pre and post approval periods. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 104 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | CSG Expert Panel | Please confirm that IESC does not as a matter of course advise on water management and monitoring plans prepared by proponents as a result of conditional approvals? a) Is there a timeframe in which a conditional approval will lapse if a proponent is not able to secure the Minister's approvals for management plans required under the conditional approval? b) In any conditional approvals granted in the last three years, have there been timeframes within which approval of management plans needs to occur in order to keep the conditional approval on foot, or alive? If so please provide details. If not, please advise why no such condition was imposed. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 105 | 5.2: WHMD | Williams | Little red flying fox – protection under state law | Senator WILLIAMS: So under federal law, the little red flying fox is not threatened? Mr White: That is correct. It is not listed as a threatened species. Senator WILLIAMS: Is it protected under any state laws? Mr White: I cannot answer that. Ms Rankin: We would have to take that on notice, Senator. | 69 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>Mr White: We could take it on notice.</p> <p>Senator WILLIAMS: So if that little red flying fox is not listed as threatened or is not protected, can action be taken to move them on?</p> <p>Ms Rankin: We can only answer in relation to their protection under Commonwealth environment legislation. As they are not listed under Commonwealth environment legislation, there is nothing under our national environmental law that prevents that. But, as I said, we would have to take on notice what their protection status might be under state legislation.</p> | | | |
| 106 | 5.2: WHMD | Williams | Monitoring flying fox | <p>Senator WILLIAMS: Can you give me any details of those numbers through the different varieties or species of the flying fox? You can take that on notice, can you?</p> <p>Mr White: Yes. The count is being undertaken certainly in relation to the grey-headed flying fox and the spectacled flying fox. It is a long-term monitoring project, of which the first two counts are available. They are available publicly, so we can supply them on notice.</p> | 69 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 107 | 5.2: WHMD | Williams | Funding available in relation to clean up of environment – flying foxes | <p>Senator WILLIAMS: This is my final question. Are there any special funding areas you can point me to as a one-off to help clean up the environmental damage, the mess, they leave behind as far as the destruction of trees et cetera and the general mess? Do you know if there is any federal government support to assist the clean-up?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: I am not aware of any funding like that. But we can take that question on notice and check for you.</p> | 70 (29/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 108 | 5.2: WHMD | Rhiannon | Flying Foxes | <p><i>The Commonwealth is seeking to enact conservation agreements with the states to devolve assessment and approval for Flying Fox management to the states.</i></p> <p>What level of consultation with conservation organisations and specialist flying fox organisations has been offered, sought or provided as part of this process?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 109 | 5.2: WHMD | Rhiannon | Flying Foxes | <p><i>The Queensland government has announced that it will devolve Flying Fox management to local councils, and to individuals in certain situations. In the context of the Commonwealth's intent to devolve powers to the states.</i></p> <p>Does this mean local councils and individuals will be responsible for the recovery of Grey Headed Flying Fox, a federally listed species? What are the risks in such a framework?</p> <p>a) How will the Commonwealth guarantee expertise knowledge and scientifically robust decision-making in this context?</p> <p>b) How will the Commonwealth ensure accountability and oversight in the protection of federally listed Flying Foxes, given the states' track record on other threatened species such as the koala?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 110 | 5.2: WHMD | Rhiannon | Flying Foxes | Where is the Grey Headed Flying Fox recovery plan up to? | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | a) What changes have been made to plan over time, including recommended? b) How many recommendations been implemented, and what are the current outcomes and monitoring results? c) Have the threats for the species become greater or less since the Recovery Plan was first drawn up? Why? | | | |
| 111 | 5.2: WHMD | Rhiannon | Kangaroos | Which federal agencies, across all portfolios and departments, are involved in the promotion, lobbying, or otherwise opening up of kangaroo export markets? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 112 | 5.2: WHMD | Rhiannon | Kangaroos | What tax concessions or other government support does the kangaroo industry receive at federal level, including representation of the industry's interests by government officials or MPs to overseas Trade or Foreign Affairs delegates? a) Has the government funded any kangaroo industry representatives to join overseas delegations to open up or maintain export markets in the last 5 years? May I have details please? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 113 | 6.1: CEW | Joyce | Commonwealth Environmental Water - Staffing | Senator JOYCE: How many staff do you have? Mr Papps: The current full-time equivalent staff numbers are 55.66. Senator JOYCE: What is the average cost of each staff member? Mr Papps: I would have to take that on notice. | 39 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 114 | 6.1: CEW | Joyce | Commonwealth Environmental Water – allocations | Senator JOYCE: Can you provide figures on a catchment-by-catchment basis, that is, how much water has been allocated in each catchment in each year and how much water has been delivered in each catchment in each year? Mr Papps: We can provide those figures. I will take that on notice. We can probably provide them today. | 41 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 115 | 6.1: CEW | Joyce | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Assessment Report June 2012 | Senator JOYCE: The Auditor General notes that in January 2012 the CEWO engaged the Australian Government Solicitor to identify and assess the sources of the CEWO's strategic, legal and governance risk and identify appropriate treatments. The detailed assessment finalised in June 2012 indicated that risk treatment could reduce the ratings of most risk sources to medium or low. Can the CEWH provide a copy of this report? Mr Papps: Yes, Senator. Senator JOYCE: What were the risks which were identified? Mr Papps: I do not have the detail in front of me. I can provide that information, though. Senator JOYCE: Will that also deal with what risk treatments could reduce the ratings of most risk sources from medium or low? | 43 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 116 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Budget | DSEWPac Budget Statements, pg 79 (Program Expenses 6.1: Commonwealth Environmental Water) – line 'annual department expenses: departmental program support' shows a reduction of approximately \$5.3 million. What functions are funded | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | Statements | by this line item? | | | |
| 117 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Budget Statements | DSEWPaC Budget Statements, pg 77 (Table 6.1: Budgeted Expenses for Outcome 6) – the table shows the average staffing level (number) dropping from 75 to 63. What positions will be lost? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 118 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Water charges | How much is the CEWO currently paying in water charges and fees on the water it owns on behalf of taxpayers? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 119 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Water charges | What sort of increases is the CEWO anticipating it will have to pay per annum to the states for the water it holds? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 120 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Water charges | Have any of the States tried to put additional fees or charges onto the CEWO that are not currently paid by other productive water entitlement holders? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 121 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Assessment Report June 2012 | The Auditor General notes “In January 2012, the CEWO engaged the Australian Government Solicitor (AGS) to identify and assess the sources of CEWO’s strategic, legal and governance risks and identify appropriate treatments. The detailed assessment, finalised in June 2012, indicated that risk treatments could reduce the ratings of most risk sources to ‘medium’ or ‘low’.” Can the CEWO provide a copy of this report? a) What are the risks which were identified? b) What typed of ‘risk treatments’ could reduce the rating of most risk sources to ‘medium’ or ‘low’? c) What are the risks currently rated at? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 122 | 6.1: CEW | Ruston | Commonwealth Environmental Water – Metering and monitoring | The Auditor General notes a lack of metering and monitoring of environmental water releases by the CEWO. What provision is there in the CEWO’s budget for metering and monitoring? a) How will metering and monitoring work and across how many sites will it operate? b) What other agencies (both State and Federal) will be involved in metering and monitoring of the CEWO’s watering actions? c) Have there been funding cuts within any of these organisations which will impact on metering and monitoring? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 123 | BOM | Macdonald | BOM – Regional | Senator IAN MACDONALD: It certainly seems to me, as a long observer of the | 13 | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | staff changes | bureau's operations, that the number of people, particularly in rural and regional Australia, continues to fall and there continues to be a reallocation to Melbourne. I see you did, in response to a question I asked from last estimates, give me some details of staff changes. And I will ask, on notice, for those staff changes through all of your operations around Australia again. As Dr Smith says, if this technology is good enough for Tennant Creek, it is a concern to me that it is going to be the future of the BOM. | (28/05/13) | | |
| 124 | BOM | Cameron | BOM – Weather prediction and the ADF | CHAIR: can you take on notice and provide non-classified information in terms of engagement that you have with the Defence Force on climate change, because I would like to be confident that the Defence Force is dealing with this issue. Dr Vertessy: Yes. Certainly we would be happy to do that. | 20 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 125 | BOM | Cameron | BOM – POAMA model | CHAIR: I am looking at your website now with POAMA. Not being an expert in this area, could I ask you to take on notice and provide us with information as to what this model is forecasting in terms of the key factors that government would need to be dealing with, both in Australia and in the Pacific islands? Dr N Smith: I am happy to do that. | 21 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 126 | BOM | Macdonald | BOM - Giles Weather Station | A new ten-year lease has been signed between the community of Warakurna and the Bureau of Meteorology for the continuation of the Giles weather station on the edge of the Great Sandy Desert in WA. a) How many BOM personnel are employed at Giles in total? b) How many of these personnel are Indigenous? c) How many BOM remote weather stations rely upon lease agreements with traditional owners for their continued operation in existing locations? d) What is the gross cost to the department of the lease agreement per year, and across the ten years? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 127 | Corporate: CSD | Xenophon | Murray-Darling Basin update on unallocated/unspent funds | Senator XENOPHON: This is a very broad question, but since 2007 I think \$13.7 billion has been allocated to return the Murray-Darling Basin to health. Again, I am happy for you to take this question on notice: can you indicate how much of this remains unallocated and unspent? What projects are in the pipeline? In other words, how much of that money has not actually been allocated yet? Ms Harwood: Specifically for the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program, which is \$5.6 billion of administered funding, around \$180 million of that has yet to be allocated to a specific project. In terms of commitment, there is also about, from memory, \$570 million—perhaps \$520 million, with the move to the regulators in the Riverland—which is committed to the states but which has not yet come under project for state priority projects. The broader \$13.7 billion includes urban infrastructure programs, funds going to other agencies, et cetera. For the remaining | 25 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | unspent moneys in the global \$13.7 billion, I would need to take that on notice. | | | |
| 128 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Staffing | <p>1. How many ongoing staff recruited this financial year to date?</p> <p>a) What classification are these staff?</p> <p>2. How many non-ongoing positions exist or have been created this financial year to date?</p> <p>a) What classification are these staff?</p> <p>3. This financial year to date, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 129 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Staffing | <p>1. How many ongoing staff left the department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?</p> <p>2. How many non-ongoing staff left department/agency this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?</p> <p>3. How many contract staff left department/agency in the year this financial year to date? What classification were these staff?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 130 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Staffing | <p>How many staff reductions/voluntary redundancies have occurred this financial year to date? What was the reason for these reductions?</p> <p>a) Were any of these reductions involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>b) Are there any plans for further staff reductions/voluntary redundancies? If so, please advise details including if there is a reduction target, how this will be achieved, and if any services/programs will be cut.</p> <p>c) If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.</p> <p>d) Are there any plans for involuntary redundancies? If yes, provide details.</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 131 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Public Service efficiencies | <p>Please provide details of the amended operational efficiencies your agency will make as per 2013-14 Budget Measure 'Public Service efficiencies' (see 2013-14 Budget Paper No 2 p108).</p> <p>In addition, please provide the following detail:</p> <p>a) Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by implementing more efficient management structures, through a reduction in expenditure on staff across the Executive Level (EL) 1 and 2, and Senior Executive Service (SES) levels?</p> <p>b) Can you quantify the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates for savings achieved by revising down the occupational density target for all new leases, buildings and major fit-outs undertaken by agencies from 16 square metres per occupied workpoint down to 14 square metres?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |

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| 132 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Public Service efficiencies | <p>1. Has there been a reduction in business flights? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> <p>2. Has there been a reduction in the use of external consultants and contractors? Has this impacted on the Department/agency, and how? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> <p>3. Provide an update of moving recruitment advertising online. Is any recruitment still in printed materials, and if yes, why? What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> <p>4. Has the department/agency reduced its printing costs? If no, why not? Have printing costs increased, and if yes why and how much? Has the five per cent savings target been achieved – if yes, how, or if it will not, why not?</p> <p>5. What are the estimated savings for each year over the forward estimates?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 133 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Graduate Recruitment | <p>Provide an update on expenditure for 2014 Graduate Recruitment to date? a) Please itemise and detail costs.</p> <p>b) Has any travel been incurred for 2014 Graduate Recruitment? Please itemise and detail costs.</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 134 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Hospitality and Entertainment | <p>What is the Department/Agency's hospitality spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>a) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>b) What is the Department/Agency's entertainment spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>c) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>d) What hospitality spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>e) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>f) What entertainment spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs.</p> <p>g) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | including any catering and drinks costs. h) Is the Department/Agency planning on reducing any of its spending on these items? If so, how will reductions be achieved and what are the estimated savings over each year of the forward estimates? | | | |
| 135 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Meeting Costs | What is the Department/Agency's meeting spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. a) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total meeting spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. b) What meeting spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. c) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what meeting spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 136 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Consultancies | 1. How many consultancies have been undertaken this financial year to date? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies. 2. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter, duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 137 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Social Media | Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and useage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2012 Budget Estimates? If yes, please explain and provide copies of any advice that has been issue. a) Does the department/agency monitor usage of social media? b) If yes, provide details of the useage (for example details could include average hours per employee, hours when useage peaks). c) Has there been a change to the department/agency protocols due to staff useage? d) If no, why not? Will the department/agency monitor useage in the future? e) Does social media impact on employee productivity? Provide details (details could include increased internet usage in general or increased internet usage in standard business hours) | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 138 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Internet | Has the Department experienced any internet problems, such as but not limited to slow internet, or internet blackouts? If yes, what was the reason for this? Did it impact the | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | Minister's office? | | | |
| 139 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Staff Amenities | What amenities are provided to staff? Provide a list, including any costs and the reason for providing the amenity. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 140 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Coffee Machines | <p>Has the department/agency purchased coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.</p> <p>a) Why were coffee machines purchased?</p> <p>b) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were purchased? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?</p> <p>c) Where did the funding for the coffee machines come from?</p> <p>d) Who has access?</p> <p>e) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?</p> <p>f) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?</p> <p>g) Does the department/agency rent coffee machines for staff usage? If yes, provide a list that includes the type of coffee machine, the cost, the amount, and any ongoing costs such as purchase of coffee or coffee pods and when the machine was purchased.</p> <p>h) Why are coffee machines rented?</p> <p>i) Has there been a noticeable difference in staff productivity since coffee machines were rented? Are staff leaving the office premises less during business hours as a result?</p> <p>j) Where does the funding for the coffee machines come from?</p> <p>k) Who has access?</p> <p>l) Who is responsible for the maintenance of the coffee machines? How much was spent on maintenance in this financial year to date, include a list of what maintenance has been undertaken. Where does the funding for maintenance come from?</p> <p>m) What are the ongoing costs of the coffee machine, such as the cost of coffee?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 141 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Contractors | <p>For this financial year to date:</p> <p>a) Has the department/agency ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>b) Has the department/agency ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>c) Has the department/agency ever employed John Utting & UMR Research Group in</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting & UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>d) Has the department/agency ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>e) Has the department/agency ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>f) Has the department/agency ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>g) Has the department/agency ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>h) Has the department/agency ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> <p>i) Has the department/agency ever employed McKinsey & Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey & Company? If yes, provide details.</p> <p>j) What contractors have been employed by the department/agency? If yes, provide details (including the work undertaken and the cost).</p> | | | |
| 142 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Grants | <p>Could the department/agency provide an update list of all grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for this financial year to date? Please provide details of the recipients, the amount, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants.</p> <p>a) Have all grant agreement details been published on its website within the required timeframe? If not, provide details.</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 143 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Government Payments of Accounts | <p>1. For this financial year to date, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)?</p> <p>a) If not, why not? Provide details, including what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached)</p> <p>2. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?</p> <p>a) Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | determined? | | | |
| 144 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Stationery requirements | How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) this financial year to date? a) What are the department/agency's stationery costs for the financial year to date? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 145 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Travel Costs | 1. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary on their travel. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). 2. For the financial year to date, please detail all travel for Departmental officers. Please include a total cost plus a breakdown that include airfares (and type of airfare), accommodation, meals and other travel expenses (such as incidentals). Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. a) What travel is planned for the rest of this financial year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. b) What travel is planned for the rest of this calendar year? Also provide a reason and brief explanation for the travel. c) What is the policy for business class airfare tickets? Is there still a reduction in business flights as per the media release by the Minister for Finance and Deregulation and the Special Minister of State dated 25 September 2012? 3. Are lounge memberships provided to any employees? If yes, what lounge memberships, to how many employees and their classification, the reason for the provision of lounge membership and the total costs of the lounge memberships. 4. When SES employees travel, do any support or administrative staff (such as an Executive Assistant) travel with them? If yes, provide details of why such a staff member is needed and the costs of the support staff travel. 5. Does the department/agency elect to offset emissions for employees work related travel? If yes, what is the cost? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 146 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Education expenses | What is the department/agency's guidelines on study? a) For this financial year to date, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, the employment classification of each participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant (provide a breakdown for each employment classification). b) Also include the reason for the study and how it is beneficial for the department/agency. | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| 147 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Executive Coaching and Leadership Training | <p>In relation to executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:</p> <p>a) Total spending on these services</p> <p>b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification</p> <p>c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>d) The names of all service providers engaged</p> <p>e) For each service purchased from a provider listed under (d), please provide:</p> <p>f) The name and nature of the service purchased</p> <p>g) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based</p> <p>h) The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification</p> <p>i) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>j) The total amount spent on the service</p> <p>k) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)</p> <p>2. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <p>a) The location used</p> <p>b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 148 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Paid Parental Leave | <p>Please list how many staff in each department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?</p> <p>a) For this financial year to date list which department/agency is providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff and their classification are in receipt of these payments.</p> <p>b) What is the paid parental scheme offered by each department and agency? How many staff have used the scheme this financial year to date.</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 149 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary | <p>1. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.</p> <p>2. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for staff of</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | Secretaries | Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for. 3. For this financial year to date, how much has been spent on training for designed to better suit the needs of Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for, and how many employees attended and their classification. | | | |
| 150 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Corporate Cars | How cars are owned by each department/agency? a) Where is the car/s located? b) What is the car/s used for? c) What is the cost of each car for this financial year to date? d) How far did each car travel this financial year to date? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 151 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Taxi Costs | How much did each department/agency spend on taxis this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown for each business group in each department/agency. a) What are the reasons for taxi costs? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 152 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Hire Cars | How much did each department/agency spend on hire cars this financial year to date? Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency. a) What are the reasons for hire car costs? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 153 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Credit Cards | Provide a breakdown for each employment classification that has a corporate credit card. a) Please update details of the following? b) What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused? c) How is corporate credit card use monitored? d) What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered? e) Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken. f) What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 154 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Provision of Equipment | 1. For departments/agencies that provide mobile phones to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what type of mobile phone is provided and the costs? 2. For departments/agencies that provide electronic equipment to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices, what are the ongoing costs for this financial year to date? 3. Is electronic equipment (such as ipad, laptop, wireless card, vasco token, blackberry, mobile phone (list type if relevant), thumb drive) provided to department/agency staff? If yes provide details of what is provided, the purchase cost, the ongoing cost and a breakdown of what staff and staff classification receives it. | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | 4. Does the department/agency provide their Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and/or their offices with any electronic equipment? If yes, provide details of what is provided, the cost and to who it is provided. | | | |
| 155 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Electricity Purchasing | What are the details of the department/agency electricity purchasing agreement? a) What are the department/agency electricity costs for this financial year to date? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 156 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Shredders | Has the department/agencies purchased any shredders this financial year? If yes, provide details of how many shredders were purchased, the cost of each shredder, why each new shredder was needed and the purpose for which the shredder is to be used. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 157 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Protective security policy framework | Provide an update for your department/agency, including what is your current compliance level, what are you doing to manage risk, what is being done to comply with the mandatory requirements and details of any department/agency specific policies and procedures | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 158 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Office Locations | 1. Please provide a list of all office locations for all departments and agencies within the portfolio by: a) Department/Agency b) Location c) Leased or Owned d) Size 2. Number of Staff at each location and classification; 3. If rented, the amount and breakdown of rent per square metre; 4. If owned, the value of the building; a) Depreciation of buildings that are owned; 5. Type of functions and work undertaken. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 159 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Program Launch Costs | What is the Department/Agency's program launch spend for this financial year to date? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events, including any catering and drinks costs. a) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total program launch spend for this financial year to date. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. b) What program launch spend is the Department/Agency's planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events including any catering and drinks costs. c) For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what program launch spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event including any catering and drinks costs. | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| 160 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Media Monitoring | <p>What is the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for this financial year to date?</p> <p>a) Which agency or agencies provided these services?</p> <p>b) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?</p> <p>c) What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?</p> <p>d) What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the department/agency for this financial year to date?</p> <p>e) Which agency or agencies provided these services?</p> <p>f) What is the estimated budget to provide these services for the year 2012-13?</p> <p>g) What has been spent providing these services this financial year to date?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 161 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Commissioned Reports | <p>How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your department/agency this financial year to date? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members.</p> <p>a) How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level?</p> <p>b) What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 162 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Printing Costs | <p>How many documents (include the amount of copies) have been printed this financial year to date? How many of these printed documents were also published online?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 163 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Advertising | <p>What was the total cost of all advertising for the financial year to date?</p> <p>a) Is the advertising campaign or non-campaign advertising? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.</p> <p>b) Has the Department of Finance and Deregulation provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.</p> <p>c) Has the Peer Review Group (PRG) and/or Independent Communications Committee (ICC) provided any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.</p> <p>d) Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies? Provide the details for each advertising item.</p> <p>e) Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.</p> <p>f) What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other communications</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake? | | | |
| 164 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Board Appointments | Provide an update of the boards within this portfolio, including: board title, terms of appointment, tenure of appointment and members. a) What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio? b) Please detail any board appointments for this financial year to date. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 165 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio wide - Freedom of Information | Has the department/agency received any updated advice on how to respond to FOI requests? a) What is the total cost to the department to process FOI requests for this financial year to date? b) How many FOI requests has the Department received for this financial year to date? How many requests have been denied and how many have been granted? Has the department failed to meet the processing times outlined in the FOI Act for any requests? If so, how many and why? Do any of these requests remain outstanding? If so, how many and why? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 166 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Community Cabinet Meetings | Provide an update of how many Community Cabinet meetings has the Minister attended this financial year to date? List date and location. a) How many Departmental Officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? What was the total cost of this travel? List travel type, accommodate and any other expenses. Which Community Cabinet meetings did the Departmental Officers attend? List date and location. b) What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for this financial year to date? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 167 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Reviews | For this financial year to date: a) How many Reviews are being undertaken? b) What reviews have concluded, and for those that are still ongoing, when will those reviews be concluded? c) Which of these reviews has been provided to Government? d) When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? e) Has the Government responded to all reviews within the timeframe? If not, why not? f) What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews? g) What reviews are planned? h) When will each of these reviews be concluded? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 168 | Corporate: CSD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Media Subscriptions | 1. What pay TV subscriptions does your department/agency have? a) Please provide a list of what channels and the reason for each channel. b) What is the cost for this financial year to date? | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>2. What newspaper subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <p>a) Please provide a list of newspaper subscriptions and the reason for each.</p> <p>b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?</p> <p>3. What magazine subscriptions does your department/agency have?</p> <p>a) Please provide a list of magazine subscriptions and the reason for each.</p> <p>b) What is the cost for this financial year to date?</p> | | | |
| 169 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Legal costs | <p>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for this financial year to date within the department/agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>a) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>b) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>c) What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services this financial year to date from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 170 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Media Training | <p>1. In relation to media training services purchased by each department/agency, please provide the following information for this financial year to date:</p> <p>a) Total spending on these services</p> <p>b) The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification</p> <p>c) The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>2. The names of all service providers engaged</p> <p>a) For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:</p> <p>b) The name and nature of the service purchased</p> <p>c) Whether the service is one-on-one or group based</p> <p>3. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>a) The total number of hours involved for all employees (provide a breakdown for each employment classification)</p> <p>b) The total amount spent on the service</p> <p>c) A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)</p> <p>4. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | | a) The location used b) The number of employees who took part on each occasion c) The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part (provide a breakdown for each employment classification) d) Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location | | | |
| 171 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Briefings for the Australian Greens and Independents | 1. Have any briefings and/or provision of informations been provided to the Australian Greens? If yes, please include: a) How are briefings requests commissioned? b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing. c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information. d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Australian Greens? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. 2. Have any briefings and/or provision of information been provided to Independents? If yes, please include: a) How are briefings requests commissioned? b) What briefings have been undertaken? Provide details and a copy of each briefing. c) Provide details of what information has been provided and a copy of the information. d) Have any briefings request been unable to proceed? If yes, provide details of what the requests were and why it could not proceed. e) How long is spent preparing and undertaking briefings/information requests for the Independents? How many staff are involved and how many hours? Provide a breakdown for each employment classification. f) Which Independents have requested briefings and/or information? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 172 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Communications Staff | 1. For all departments and agencies, please provide – in relation to all public relations, communications and media staff – the following: a) By Department or agency: b) How many ongoing staff, the classification, the type of work they undertake and their location. c) How many non-ongoing staff, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location d) How many contractors, their classification, type of work they undertake and their location | Written | 06/08/13 | |

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| | | | | e) How many are graphic designers? f) How many are media managers? g) How many organise events? 2. Do any departments/agencies have independent media studios? If yes, why? When was it established? What is the set up cost? What is the ongoing cost? a) How many staff work there and what are their classifications? | | | |
| 173 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Alternative Policy Costings | Has the Department undertaken any alternative policy costings or advice? If yes, provide details of what these costings or advice were, including provision of costings or advice documents and assumptions used, and who made the request and when. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 174 | Corporate: PCD | Birmingham | Portfolio Wide - Pre-election appointments | Provide a list of any appointments made in your portfolio that will commence after the announced election date of 14 September 2013. Provide details of the appointment including position and length. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 175 | GBRMPA | Birmingham | GBRMPA – Crown of Thorns starfish – bleaching events | Senator BIRMINGHAM:Are you able to give any tangible assessment of how it has made a difference in terms of the particular numbers of sites or geographic areas having been improved over the two years? Dr Reichelt: I would have to take it on notice. Those figures of where the operations have been and the numbers taken off each reef would be available, if that would help. | 24 (28/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 176 | GBRMPA | Joyce | GBRMPA – Reef Rescue | Senator JOYCE: Could I ask one final thing? In the money you spend on reef rescue, how much of that actually goes towards salary and wages and how much of it actually goes towards capital works? | 24 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 177 | GBRMPA | Macdonald | GBRMPA – PBS program 1.1 MOU with SEWPaC | Senator IAN MACDONALD: Dr Grimes, perhaps on notice—I do not want to spend too much time on this—could you just explain to me, on page 157, the difference in the figures there from the estimated actual for the 2012-13 year and the estimated expenses for 2013-14? Dr Grimes: Yes, Senator, I think that would be appropriate for GBRMPA to take on notice. | 25 (28/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 178 | GBRMPA | Waters | GBRMPA – Abbot Point draft reports | Senator WATERS: Given that you are sharing the drafts with the Ports Association, could you share with us now a flavour of the conclusions that the reports are reaching? Dr A Smith: The simple conclusion is that dredge spoil potentially moves further than previously predicted because the new modelling is using ocean currents as well as traditional wind and waves. Dr Reichelt: There are also three-dimensional models as opposed to two-dimensional. Senator WATERS: Is it correct that those reports have concluded so far that the amount of suspended sediment in the Great Barrier Reef due to remobilisation from dredging is the same as the amount flowing into the reef from land based sources? Dr A Smith: That is a complex question that we would have to take on notice. We are | 29 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | certainly interested in the comparison between natural versus anthropogenic impacts. Certainly in the case of Abbot Point we are looking quite closely at that as part of the assessment for the port activities there. | | | |
| 179 | GBRMPA | Waters | GBRMPA – QLD Assessment Report | <p>Senator WATERS: Dr Reichelt, you are happy to take the Queensland government's word for that? You are not undertaking, as the authority, your own studies to determine whether those claims are accurate?</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: No. We have done our own assessment of the likelihood of an impact on the marine park.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: That was my earlier question, which I thought you had answered 'no' to. Could you talk me through the assessment that you have done?</p> <p>Dr Reichelt: I do not have the brief with me. I would be happy to provide the information on notice.</p> | 31 (28/05/13) | 06/08/13 | |
| 180 | GBRMPA | Macdonald | GBRMPA - Great Barrier Reef Green Zones | <p><i>In 2010/11 GBRMPA issued 18 infringement notices for fishing in the Marine Park Green Zones.</i></p> <p><i>In 2011/12 GBRMPA issued 9 infringement notices for fishing in the Marine Park Green Zones.</i></p> <p>To April 2013 – 10 months into 2012/13 – 2 infringement notices were issued.</p> <p>a) How many incidents of recreational fishing in green zones have been recorded in 2012/13?</p> <p>b) How many incidents of recreational fishing in green zones have been prosecuted in 2012/13?</p> <p>c) How many incidents of commercial fishing in green zones has been recorded and prosecuted in the same period?</p> <p>d) What was the cost of maintaining the GBRMPA compliance and enforcement unit in 2011/12, and in 2012/13?</p> <p>e) How much revenue was generated across these periods from the imposition of fines and infringement notices?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 181 | GBRMPA | Waters | GBRMPA – Strategic Assessment staffing | Please advise how the staffing resourcing (full time equivalent) GBRMPA has working on the strategic assessment of the Great Barrier Reef. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 182 | GBRMPA | Waters | GBRMPA – Dredging | <p>Is it correct that the amount of suspended sediment in the waters of the Great Barrier Reef due to remobilisation from dredging is similar to the amount of sediment coming from the GBR catchment rivers, what effect is that additional sediment load likely to be having on the GBR?</p> <p>a) Has GBRMPA assessed the extent to which this additional sediment will undermine</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | the improvements in runoff achieved through Reef Rescue? (please detail findings and/or any relevant documents) If not, please advise why not, and when such as assessment will occur? b) Is the proposal for GBRMPA to charge for dumping of dredge spoil within the GBR Marine Park still being progressed in any way? If so please provide details. | | | |
| 183 | GBRMPA | Waters | GBRMPA – EPBC assessments | With increased development on Queensland’s coast, coupled with increasing threats to the Reef, is it correct that GBRMPA has been asked to advise on more developments being assessed under the EPBC Act over the last five years? Please provide details. a) Please also provide details of the staffing resources and other resources dedicated to providing this advice over that time (year by year). | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 184 | GBRMPA | Waters | GBRMPA – Abbot Point | It has been reported that some sort of offshore trestle loading facilities is being considered as an alternative to extensive dredging for the proposed port development at Abbott point– has GBRMPA done any research on the likely environmental impacts of such a development? a) Please outline the risks and impacts that would need to be assessed, including additional exposure to weather through offshore loading, coal dust impacts on the Reef. | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 185 | 5.1: WHMD | Waters | GBRMPA – Board member Tony Mooney | Mr Tony Mooney is on the board of GBRMPA, and is also on the management committee of Guilford Coal. Please advise what steps GBRMPA has in place to manage this potential conflict of interest in their board appointment. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 186 | 5.1: WHMD | Waters | WHC concerns | Has the Department briefed the Minister on what additional steps (above those already underway) he could take to address the WHC’s concerns or to implement their recommendations? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 187 | MDBA | Joyce | MDBA - Model annual inflows of the Murray-Darling | Senator JOYCE: Can you provide the committee with the model annual inflows of the Murray-Darling for every year since 1895? Please include these up to the latest year possible. Obviously, I want that on notice; I am not going to ask you to do it now. Is it possible to get that in the next— Ms Harwood: I am sorry; what was the— Senator JOYCE: Can we get model annual inflows into the Murray-Darling for every year since 1895? | 16 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 188 | MDBA | Ruston | MDBA - Project at Chowilla contractual details | Senator RUSTON: On that basis, I would ask you to get me what you think the final cost of the project is going to be. Could you also confirm whether, in the contract, the contractor was paid \$66,000 a day for down time when they were unable to work and actually what that \$66,000 equates to in a total amount for the number of days that were down and who is responsible for the paying of that \$66,000 a day, if it is actually a correct figure? Could you also—if you do not have the answer now—provide me with some information about where the negotiations are currently at with the | 20 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>landholder. My understanding is that we do not have an agreement with the landholder in relation to any compensation that is to be paid to them. So the question is: what is the government's liability, what is the taxpayer's liability in relation to this particular person who has, so far, not got a contract with the department for the consequences of the inundation of his land in relation to the infrastructure?</p> <p>Dr Dreverman: I will take all of that on notice because some of those are quite complex commercial matters between the state of South Australia and the contractor or between the state of South Australia and the landholder. So they are not matters that the authority is directly responsible for. We fund the overall project, but the project is delivered by the state of South Australia on behalf of four governments. I will have to take that on notice because I will have to go back to the state of South Australia to get that information.</p> <p>Senator RUSTON: Perhaps you could just let me know where the liability rests if there is an unsatisfactory conclusion to the negotiations with the landholder, despite the fact that we have a regulator—</p> <p>CHAIR: Senator Ruston, we need to move on.</p> <p>Senator RUSTON: and who will pay. Thank you very much</p> | | | |
| 189 | MDBA | Hanson-Young | MDBA - Monitoring and Evaluation under the Murray Darling Basin Plan | How will monitoring and evaluation obligations under MD Basin plan be met and funded? Specifically interested in how much of their budget is earmarked for Monitoring and evaluation. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 190 | MDBA | Hanson-Young | MDBA – Joint NRM projects to MDBA | <p><i>Two state governments have reduced funding for joint NRM projects to Basin Authority. The Native Fish Program an important program which engaged community and worked to protect native fish species.</i></p> <p>What future course of action is being considered to continue meeting these environmental and community goals/ how will SEWPAC/MDBA meet these goals?</p> | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 191 | Office of Water Science | Waters | OWS - Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development | <p>What are the current major pieces of work that have been identified as still needing to be done to ensure we have the info needed to make informed decisions about the individual and cumulative impacts of coal and coal seam gas on water?</p> <p>a) How long will it take to complete this work?</p> | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 192 | Office of | Waters | OWS - | Has the Dept (or IESC) been asked to provide any advice on the likely risks of other | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | Water Science | | Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development | onshore unconventional gas developments on Australia's water resources? | | | |
| 193 | Office of Water Science | Waters | OWS - Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development | On Tuesday 28 May at APPEA's conference in Brisbane a major international unconventional gas consultant, Colin Jordan, from oil and gas advisory company, RISC, highlighted that much more work needs to be done to understand unconventional gas development in Australia, that we can't simply super-impose the North American shale gas experience. Based on IESC's experience with CSG, would IESC and/or the Department agree with this? What work does IESC/ the Dept think is needed for us to be on the front foot in managing shale and its impacts on Australia's water? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 194 | Office of Water Science | Waters | OWS - Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development | Resourcing – how many staff does IESC have, how will the additional staffing resources to support the water trigger's implementation be allocated between IESC support area or to SEWPaC's assessments areas? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 195 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Liability for long term water impacts of coal seam gas | As a matter of principle, who has the liability for groundwater impacts once the wells are sealed and the project complete, and who is responsible for monitoring, managing and rectifying groundwater impacts that exhibit themselves after the project is complete? | Written | 06/08/13 | |
| 196 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Liability for long term water impacts of coal seam gas | In all coal seam gas projects approved in this term of government: a) who has the liability for groundwater impacts once the wells are sealed and the project complete? Who is responsible for monitoring, managing and rectifying groundwater impacts that exhibit themselves after the project is complete? If this is not the proponent, why not? b) Did the Commonwealth require a financial assurity or bond to be lodged prior to commencement of any EPBC approved coal seam gas activities. For each project where such an assurity is in place please advise – what the funds are to be used for and how long after project completion any remaining funds will be returned to the | Written | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | proponent, and who bears what level of evidentiary burden to establish causation of damage by the project? | | | |
| 197 | Office of Water Science | Waters | OWS – Report into CSG Nov 2011 | What work has been done to respond to the recommendations in the interim report into CSG undertaken by the Senate inquiry into the MDB in (Nov 2011) | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 198 | PARKS | Boswell | PARKS – Commonwealth Marine Reserves | <p>Senator BOSWELL: Will the federal government be funding state governments to manage the marine parks?</p> <p>Mr Clark: The process that we have used to date, Senator, is through annual business agreements with state agencies. We look to fund certain activities which provide the most cost effective way to do that jointly with states. For example, where there is a state marine reserve abutting a Commonwealth marine reserve, the activities are complementary and it makes sense to do so, we enter into annual business agreements where funding is provided from the Commonwealth to the states to undertake work on our behalf.</p> <p>Senator BOSWELL: How many of those are there?</p> <p>Mr Clark: I will have a look for you. I might have to take that on notice. We have annual business agreements in place with a number of states.</p> | 62 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 199 | PARKS | Macdonald | PARKS - Monitoring and surveillance of the Coral Sea marine park | <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Can I ask you, on notice, to give me a list of the actual surveillance flights or boat patrols that there have been in this area that Senator Boswell is talking about in the last 12 months, please?</p> <p>Mr Clark: I will take that on notice.</p> | 63 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 200 | PARKS | Heffernan | PARKS – Helicopter costs | Senator HEFFERNAN: Could you take a question on notice? In your helicopter shoots, what is the type of helicopter and what is the charge per hour? You can take it on notice. | 38 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 201 | PARKS | Birmingham | PARKS – Uluru climb statistics | <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Do you have data that you are able to share? You said the highest number are Australians. I imagine Australians are also still the highest number of visitors to the park.</p> <p>Mr Cochrane: I would have to take that on notice because I do not have the results of that research here. It has certainly been published in a number of places by researchers from ANU that we commissioned.</p> | 40 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 202 | PARKS | Birmingham | PARKS – Christmas Island staff rental assistance costs | <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Are there any other impacts in relation to Christmas Island being felt as a result of the increased level of human traffic across the island?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane: The predominant impact on us is actually the increase in cost of accommodation on the island because accommodation is incredibly tight. Through the department's enterprise agreement, we provide rental subsidies for staff on the island.</p> | 41 (28/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | <p>That has been an increasing cost for us.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: How many staff do you have on the island?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane: I can answer that very shortly. Our average staffing for the year has been 25. About half of those are externally funded through the Christmas Island mine site rehabilitation program, which is funded via a levy on the mine.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM: Are you able to estimate what the additional cost of accommodation is associated with those 25?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane: I would have to take that on notice. It certainly has gone up by several hundred dollars a week, at least.</p> | | | |
| 203 | PARKS | Siewert | PARKS - Marine Bioregions – Management Issues | What does the current level of marine park funding across most of Australia provide for, in terms of basic management? Please provide a detailed breakdown of expenditure on marine park management, by reserve or reserve network. | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 204 | PARKS | Siewert | PARKS - Marine Bioregions – Management Issues | How much funding would be required to extend this basic standard of management across the new marine reserve network? | Written | 05/09/13 | |
| 205 | Supervising Scientist | Ludlam | Supervising Scientist - Senate Report into the adequacy of federal regulation of uranium mining | <p>Senator LUDLAM: The report was actually highly critical of the regulatory regime at Ranger. It described it as complex and inadequate. Could you provide detail on how OSS has addressed the recommendations of that inquiry as they had bearing specifically on the Ranger operation?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: We would appreciate the opportunity to take that question on notice, Senator. I do recall extensive conversations with Mr Hughes about this and I think previous evidence on this that we would like to be able to refer to to ensure that we are not contradicting ourselves.</p> <p>Senator LUDLAM: That would be good. If you could take it on notice, I might be a bit more specific in my questions relating to it. As I say, it is approaching 10 years and it would be fantastic to get a review and some sort of response from the OSS and/or the department, if that is seen to be appropriate. If you are going to take these on notice, are there any recommendations pertinent to the operations of the OSS or Ranger that have not been advanced or responded to by the government? I might be directing this somewhat to the minister.</p> <p>Dr Dripps: My understanding is that there are not but that it is a very complicated story to point out the events that were occurring at the same time through which those recommendations were fully addressed. But that is a recollection, Senator, and we would prefer to take the question on notice.</p> | 64 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| 206 | 5.2: WHMD | Waters | Little red flying fox – protocols and procedures | <p>Senator WILLIAMS: So if this little red flying fox is not on the threatened list and is not on the protected list, do you have any advice on how to move them out of the centre of a town? Is there any protocol or procedure that the department has taken to move them on?</p> <p>Dr Dripps: There has been extensive and successful work undertaken by some of the state governments in moving flying foxes on. A particular example that springs to mind is that of the Victorian government, who moved flying foxes out of the botanic gardens and up the river to Ivanhoe in Melbourne. So there are protocols and procedures for doing this available. We could undertake to provide you with some information on that on notice, if you do not mind.</p> | 70 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 207 | 5.2: WHMD | Macdonald | Flying fox – Queensland government response | <p>Dr Dripps: Just in terms of those time lines, Senator, the minister for the environment wrote to the environment ministers in Queensland, New South Wales, the ACT, Victoria and South Australia in May last year. There has been a pretty protracted process in receiving responses from the state governments. The revised draft of the conservation agreement was sent to New South Wales after consultation with them in November last year. The written comments on that draft were received on 13 February this year. So we have had several rounds of engagement with the states on this conservation agreement and we believe that it is quite close to finalisation.</p> <p>Senator IAN MACDONALD: Well, that is New South Wales. I am more interested in Queensland. I respect that New South Wales is important. I want to put on notice this question: what is holding up the Queensland agreement? If you can tell me that, I will use what little influence I have in Queensland to make sure the Queensland minister addresses it immediately. I would be surprised if he is not, because I have been talking to him and he is very, very aware of the position. In fact, he and his leader have both made commitments regarding it. But on notice I ask you to indicate what the hold-up is insofar as Queensland is.</p> <p>Dr Dripps: Yes, of course, Senator.</p> | 71 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 208 | 5.2: EACD | Waters | Gladstone Modelling | <p>Ms Colreavy: Senator, you asked about the modelling. The modelling for the western basin dredging project was similar to the modelling that was undertaken by GBRMPA in their recent research project. So, in essence, that was your question.</p> <p>Senator WATERS: Yes. That is it, thank you.</p> <p>Ms Colreavy: I have asked the staff to investigate the documents for it. Unfortunately, it is really complex. There was certainly extensive modelling undertaken. We have got a lot of documents on the modelling. We referred that for expert advice. We are unable to pull it together quickly enough during this interlude to actually give you a definitive answer on what was investigated and what was not. I have a copy of the statement of reasons that was provided. I have gone through it. I am happy to give you a copy, but I</p> | 86 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |

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| | | | | do not think— Senator WATERS: I think I have already read that one. It does not really shed any light on that particular question. Ms Colreavy: No. I was just going to say I do not think it really helps you go to the technical detail of the question. But we could take that on notice and actually provide you with an overview, if you like, of what the modelling was and what it covered in that project. Senator WATERS: I would appreciate that. As promptly as you can would be greatly helpful. Ms Colreavy: We will do our best. | | | |
| 209 | 5.2: EACD | Birmingham | Sea Dumping – Border Protection Command permit | Senator BIRMINGHAM: Border Protection Command indicated that their last permit expired in 2005. Is that correct? How is it that they have been operating for eight years without a permit? Does it mean that they have been in breach of the sea dumping act? Ms Callister: I am not aware when their last permit expired, so I would need to take that information on notice. | 88 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 210 | 6.1: CEW | Joyce | Total water delivered since commencement of the program | Senator JOYCE: Over the past five years, how much water has the water holder delivered to the environment? Mr Papps: The total delivered since the commencement of the program five years ago to 30 April is 2,359 gigalitres. Senator JOYCE: You were allocated 2,978, is that correct? Mr Papps: The figure I have is 2,812 gigalitres, but I will check that during the day and let you know. | 39 (29/05/13) | 05/09/13 | |
| 211 | 2.1: EQD | Rhiannon | Consultation RIS on woodheaters | a) Did the federal government's Consultation RIS on woodheater pollution RIS process request any federal health agency input about health care costs from wood smoke emissions to inform a national policy or regulatory framework around reducing emissions from wood heaters? b) Is there any such data or recorded concerns available via the Department's data collection sources? c) What recommendations would the Department of Health urge on this issue? d) What are the estimated national health costs caused by woodsmoke, from health professionals' point of view? e) What information and advice about this issue is being sought from health professionals by the Department, notwithstanding the current Senate Inquiry into Air Quality? f) What actions would federal health agencies want to see to reduce the physical and economic health costs of woodsmoke? | Written | 05/09/13 | |

