

**Senate Finance and Public Administration Legislation Committee**  
**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**  
**BUDGET ESTIMATES 2011-2012**

Prime Minister and Cabinet Portfolio

**Department/Agency: Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet**  
**Outcome/Program: 1.1.1 – Domestic Policy**  
**Topic: COAG discussions around Water**

**Senator: Birmingham**

**Question reference number: 18**

**Type of question: Hansard, p 88, 23 May**

**Date set by the committee for the return of answer: 8 July 2011**

**Number of pages: 1**

**Question:**

**Senator BIRMINGHAM: Lastly, are there any intentions or plans that water would be a subject matter of COAG discussions again in the near future?**

**Dr Schreier: I am not aware of plans for that at the moment. I would have to take that on notice to give you a completely accurate answer.**

**Senator BIRMINGHAM: Sure, if you could. Thank you very much.**

**Answer:**

COAG will be required to consider the outcome of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Biennial assessment of the implementation of the National Water Initiative (NWI), which includes a review of the NWI, over the next 12 months. The *National Water Commission Act 2004* terminates on 30 June 2012.