Appendix 4

Overview of Commonwealth institutions, agencies and programs

National water institutions

Key national level institutions (involving representation of several governments including that of New Zealand) are listed alphabetically below, followed by more detailed descriptions:

Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC)¹

The natural resource management components of ANZECC were transferred to the newly created Natural Resource Management Ministerial Council (NRMMC).

ANZECC provided a forum for member governments to exchange information and experience and develop coordinated policies in relation to national and international environment and conservation issues.

Agriculture and Resource Management Council of Australia and New Zealand (ARMCANZ)

ARMCANZ is now defunct and its functions were transferred to the Natural Resources Management Ministerial Council.

ARMCANZ consisted of the Australian Federal, State/ Territory and New Zealand Ministers responsible for agriculture, soil, water (both rural and urban) and rural adjustment policy. The Council aimed to develop integrated and sustainable agricultural and land and water management policies.²

Council of Australian Governments (COAG)

COAG comprises the Commonwealth and State/Territory heads of government. While it addresses all inter-governmental issues, over the last decade, COAG has negotiated several major agreements setting out principles for allocating responsibility for management of environmental issues in Australia. These include the:

• Inter-governmental Agreement on the Environment (1992);

2 <u>www.affa.gov.au/docs/operating_environment/armcanz/home.html</u>

¹ www.ea.gov.au/cooperation/anzecc

- Heads of Agreement on Commonwealth/State Roles and Responsibilities for the Environment (1997); and
- National Water Reform Framework (1994, extended in 1996).

In relation to water, the focus of the COAG framework is to 'explicitly link economic and environmental issues within a coherent and integrated reform package', through:

- water pricing regimes based on the principles of full cost recovery and consumption based pricing;
- separation of water property rights from land title;
- providing for permanent trading in water entitlements;
- specific provisions to ensure water flows for environmental purposes;
- water service providers to operate with a commercial focus;
- planning for conjunctive use of surface and groundwater resources (where appropriate);
- improved institutional arrangements; and
- public consultation and education.³

Environment Protection and Heritage Ministerial Council (EPHMC)⁴

The EPHMC was created by the amalgamation of the National Environment Protection Council (NEPC), the environment protection components of the Australian and New Zealand Environment and Conservation Council (ANZECC), and Heritage Ministers' Meetings.

The objective of the Council is to develop integrated and sustainable agricultural, land and water management policies, strategies and practices for the benefit of the Australian community.

In 1994, EPHMC also set up the inter-governmental Task Force on COAG Water Reform, which is tasked with coordinating the COAG water reform program.

Previously ANZECC, and now EPHMC (and with respect to public health matters, the NHMRC), developed the *National Water Quality Management Strategy* (NWQMS) covering effluent and sewerage system management, urban stormwater and drinking water, fresh and marine water quality and groundwater protection. The 19 published guidelines are listed in the AFFA/EA submission.⁵

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³ Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry–Australia and Environment Australia, *Submission 54*, p 19.

⁴ www.ephc.gov.au

⁵ Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry–Australia and Environment Australia, *Submission 54*, p 29.

High Level Steering Group on Water (HLSGW)⁶

The HLSGW was established by ARMCANZ in July 1998 to assist in the development of a national approach to water management.

The HLSGW comprises representatives of the agriculture and environment agencies of the Commonwealth and Australian State Governments. The Group's role is to maintain the impetus of the COAG Water Reforms process by reporting to NRMMC. In addition to this reporting role, the HLSGW assists jurisdictions in implementing water reforms by commissioning research and focusing on key water reform issues.⁷

Murray Darling Basin Commission (MDBC)⁸

The Murray Darling Basin covers 1.06 million square kilometres of the States of Queensland, NSW, Victoria and South Australia, including the major cities of Adelaide, Canberra, Albury-Wodonga, and Wagga Wagga. Management of the water resources of this area is the responsibility of two main institutions: the Murray Darling Basin Ministerial Council, comprising Ministers holding land, water and environment portfolios in each participating government; and the Murray Darling Basin Commission.

The Commission is an independent agency established by the inter-governmental Murray-Darling Basin Agreement, signed in 1992, and given full legal status by the *Murray-Darling Basin Act 1993* passed by all the contracting governments.

The Commission comprises a President and Commissioners representing resource and environmental management agencies of participating governments.

National Environment Protection Council (NEPC)⁹

The NEPC is now part of the Environment Protection and Heritage Ministerial Council.

The NEPC arose out of the Inter-governmental Agreement on the Environment (IGAE) (1992), and is established under the *National Environment Protection Council Act 1994 (Cth)*, and corresponding legislation in the other jurisdictions.

Under the Act, the primary functions of the Council are: to make National Environment Protection Measures (NEPMs); and to report on their implementation and effectiveness.

⁶ The Australian Water Directory 2001, Australian Water Association, p 51.

⁷ AFFA website <u>www.affa.gov.au</u> printed on 8 January 2002

⁸ http://www.mdbc.gov.au

⁹ www.ephc.gov.au

National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC)¹⁰

The NHMRC is the national organisation coordinating medical research funding and development of advice on health standards, and is created by the *National Health and Medical Research Council Act 1972 (Cth)*.

The Council comprises nominees of Commonwealth, State and Territory health authorities, professional and scientific colleges and associations, unions, universities, business, consumer groups, welfare organisations, conservation groups and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Commission.

The NHMRC plays an important role in the development of the *National Water Quality Management Strategy* (NWQMS), and in particular the *Australian Drinking Water Guidelines*. These were discussed in greater detail under EPHMC above.

National Land and Water Resources Audit (NLWRA)¹¹

The NLWRA is a program of the Natural Heritage Trust, set up in 1997 to improve land, water and vegetation management by providing better information to resource managers. The Audit is a partnership between all States, Territories and the Commonwealth. The principal 'product' of the NLWRA is the *Australian Natural Resources Atlas*.

Natural Resources Management Ministerial Council (NRMMC)¹²

The NRMMC is a national forum comprising Environment, Agriculture and Natural Resource Ministers from the Commonwealth, State and Territories. Federal Agriculture Minister Warren Truss and Environment Minister David Kemp will jointly chair the Council.

The NRMMC will take responsibility for sustainable management of land, water, vegetation and other natural resource issues, as well as environmental flows, conservation of endangered species and ecological communities, migratory birds and wetlands. The NRMMC makes high level decisions in relation to the National Action Plan on Water Quality and Salinity, and the Natural Heritage Trust. It has taken over the natural resource management components of ANZECC and ARMCANZ.

Commonwealth government institutions

According to the government submission, Federal activity to date has been focused on national leadership and standard setting.¹³ Commonwealth government institutions

11 http://www.nlwra.gov.au

¹⁰ www.nhmrc.health.gov.au

Senator Robert Hill, Press release, *Australia's first national body to manage natural resources*, 30 August 2001.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry–Australia and Environment Australia, *Submission 54*, p 3.

(those which are the direct responsibility of the Federal government) involved in urban water management are listed below.

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)¹⁴

The ACCC is an indirect player in the water industry and administers the *Trade Practices Act 1974* and the *Prices Surveillance Act 1983*. It has an overarching role in preventing anti-competitive behaviour such as price fixing, which will increasingly have implications for the water industry under the National Competition Policy restructuring discussed below.

Department of the Environment and Heritage – Environment Australia $(EA)^{15}$

Commonwealth responsibility for matters of national environmental significance rests with Environment Australia, through the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999*. EA's responsibilities in respect to urban water management include developing and implementing a planning and management framework for marine and estuarine water quality protection and implementation of water protection programs.¹⁶

EA shares responsibility for a number of matters with AFFA.

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Australia $\left(AFFA\right)^{17}$

Commonwealth responsibility for major aspects of natural resource management, agriculture and food rests with AFFA and includes lead responsibility for the Commonwealth Government's water policy reforms under the Council of Australian Governments, and has the role of chair of the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council. AFFA also has joint responsibilities with EA for managing the *Natural Heritage Trust* (NHT)¹⁸ and the *National Action Plan for Salinity and Water Quality*. ¹⁹

Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority (GBRMPA)

GBRMPA was established by the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Act 1975*. It manages both the marine park and world heritage listed areas under the principles of

19 AFFA/EA, Submission No 54, p 3.

¹⁴ www.accc.gov.au

¹⁵ www.ea.gov.au

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry–Australia and Environment Australia, *Submission 54*, p 3.

¹⁷ www.affa.gov.au and Submission No 54

^{18 &}lt;u>www.nht.gov.au</u>

the *Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Regulations 1983*, the Great Barrier Reef Section Zoning Plans and Plans of Management.²⁰

National Competition Council (NCC)²¹

The NCC provides national oversight of the National Competition Policy (NCP) and undertakes assessments of governments' progress in implementing the policy. The NCP emerged in 1991 out of a series of Special Premiers Conferences, and is underpinned by the *Commonwealth Competition Policy Reform Act 1995*.²²

The focus of the NCP in relation to water is reforming the pricing regimes so that they are based on consumption based pricing, full cost recovery and the removal of cross subsidies. The other major focus is the separation of responsibilities for standard setting, regulatory enforcement and service provision in water management.²³

Implementation of the reforms is tied to payments to the states (National Competition Payments), and based on NCC assessments conducted in 1999 (Second Tranche) and 2001 (Third Tranche).

Sustainable Environment Committee of the Cabinet

The Howard Government's third-term Cabinet also saw the creation of the Sustainable Environment Committee, with a membership chaired by the Prime Minister and including the Ministers for Transport and Regional Services; Environment and Heritage; Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry; Education, Science and Training; Industry, Tourism and Resources; and Forestry and Conservation.²⁴

State and Territory regulatory agencies

Most aspects of urban water regulation are the responsibility of state and territory government. In each jurisdiction, there are generally four regulatory tasks: environmental protection; natural resource management; public health, and price setting.

Table 1 summarises these arrangements, together with the relevant legislation administered by the various agencies.²⁵

²⁰ Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, *Submission 60*, pp 9-10.

²¹ www.ncc.gov.au

For a general overview of the NCP, see Parliamentary Library Current Issues Brief, *Australia's National Competition Policy: Its Evolution and operation*, June 2001.

National Competition Council, *Submission 13*, p 2; and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries, Forestry–Australia and Environment Australia, *Submission 54*, p 19.

²⁴ Prime Minister, Press Release: Cabinet Committees, 13 Dec 2001.

Adapted from *The Australian Water Directory 2001*, Australian Water Association, p 8; and The Australian Urban Water Industry, 2001 WSAA*facts*, Water Services Association of Australia, p 14.

Table 1

State	Legislation	Natural Resource manager	Public health regulator	Environmental regulator	Price Setting authority
Australian Capital Territory	Water and Sewerage Act 2000 Water Resources Act 1998	Department of Urban Services Planning and Land Management	Department of Health, Housing and Community Care	Environment ACT	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Commission
Northern Territory	Power and Water Authority Act Water Supply and Sewerage Services Act Water Act	Dept of Lands, Planning & Environment	Territory Health Services	Dept of Lands, Planning & Environment	Pricing control held by government.
NSW	Local Government Act 1993 Water Management Act 2000 Protection of Environment (Administration) Act 1991 Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 Protection of Environment Operations Act 1997	Department of Land and Water Conservation	Health Department	Environment Protection Authority	Independent Pricing and Regulatory Tribunal (IPART)
Victoria (non Melb)	Water Act 1989 Environment Protection Act 1970 Health Act 1958	Dept of Natural Resources & Environment	Dept of Human Services	Environment Protection Authority	Pricing control held by government

State	Legislation	Natural Resource manager	Public health regulator	Environmental regulator	Price Setting authority
Western Australia	Water Corporation Act 1995 Water Agencies (Powers) Act 1984	Water & Rivers Commission	Health Dept	Dept of Environmental Protection	Office of Water Regulation Pricing control held by government
South Australia	Public Corporations Act 1993 South Australia Water Corporation Act 1994 Waterworks Act 1932 Sewerage Act 1929 Water Conservation Act 1936	Dept for Water Land & Biodiversity Conservation	Health Commission	Environment Protection Authority	Competition Commission
Queensland	Water Resources Act 1989 Integrated Planning Act 1997 Sewerage and Water Supply Act 1949 Queensland Competition Authority Act 1997 Environmental Protection Act 1994 Health Act 1937 Local Government Act 1993	Dept of Natural Resources	Department of Health	Environment Protection Authority.	Queensland Competition Authority Department of Natural Resources.

State	Legislation	Natural Resource manager	Public health regulator	Environmental regulator	Price Setting authority
Tasmania	Local Government Act 1993	Dept of Primary Industries, Water & Environment	Dept of Health & Human Services	Dept of Primary Industries, Water & Environment	Government Prices Oversight Commission

Three additional state government agencies are worthy of mention:

NSW Healthy Rivers Commission²⁶

The HRC is an independent Commission set up by the NSW Government in 1996 (as part of the Government's Water Reform Program) to make public inquiries into selected NSW river systems, and to make recommendations to the Government on appropriate long-term approaches and strategies to achieve environmental, social and economic objectives for the systems.

WA Water and Rivers Commission (WRC)²⁷

The WRC is tasked with the management of Western Australia's water resources, including wetlands, rivers, estuaries, inlets and groundwater. It was established in 1996, under the *Water and Rivers Commission Act 1995*, however in 2001, the WRC was merged with the Western Australian Department of Environmental Protection to form the new Department of the Environment, Water and Catchment Protection.²⁸

WA Office of Water Regulation²⁹

The Office of Water Regulation was formed in 1995, as the regulator of service providers in the water industry, and reports to the Minister for Water Resources. Under the Water Services Coordination Act 1995, the Office of Water Regulation has authority to:

- regulate and license the provision of water services;
- coordinate and advise on water services policy; and
- perform functions under laws relating to the provision of water services.

27 <u>www.wrc.wa.gov.au</u> and Water and Rivers Commission, *Submission 12*.

²⁶ www.wrc.wa.gov.au/owr

²⁸ Dr Leybourne, *Proof Committee Hansard*, *Perth*, 29 April 2002, p 391.

²⁹ www.wrc.wa.gov.au/owr

State and Territory urban water utilities

In general terms, provision of water services can be divided into three functions: provision of water; wastewater (sewage) management; and stormwater management (not including the catchment management function). The following summarises the arrangements for each State and Territory.

Australian Capital Territory

In the ACT, water supply and wastewater are the responsibility of the joint venture ActewAGL³⁰ although all infrastructure remains publicly owned by the ACTEW Corporation.

Stormwater is primarily the responsibility of the ACT Department of Urban Services³¹ and the Stormwater Unit of Roads ACT³² (a business unit of the Department).³³

New South Wales

Sydney Water³⁴ is the largest water company in Australia, supplying water and wastewater services to nearly four million residential customers in Sydney, Illawarra and the Blue Mountains, as well as some stormwater services.³⁵

The Sydney Catchment Authority (SCA) is responsible for the management of the catchments, waterways and dams where water is collected and stored and it provides all of Sydney Water's supply.³⁶

Outside of the Sydney region, non-metropolitan urban water, wastewater and stormwater is the responsibility of 122 local councils,³⁷ as well as the Hunter Water Corporation responsible for water services to around half a million people in the Lower Hunter Valley region.³⁸

31 www.urbanservices.act.gov.au

³⁰ www.actewagl.com.au

^{32 &}lt;u>www.roads-storm.act.gov.au</u>

The Roads ACT website notes that Planning and Land Management (PALM) is responsible for the planning and development of the stormwater network at the sub division level. Roads ACT is responsible for planning and maintaining roads and kerbs as part of the stormwater system. Canberra Urban Parks and Places is responsible for the maintenance of grassed floodways, urban lakes and other 'natural' physical components of the stormwater network. Private land developers are responsible for constructing the stormwater network within suburbs according to stipulated standards.

³⁴ www.sydneywater.com.au

³⁵ Sydney Water, Submission 45, p 3.

³⁶ Sydney Water, Submission 45, p 3.

Local Government and the Shires Association NSW, *Submission 9*, p 1; and NSW Deptartment of Land & Water Conservation, *Submission 36*, p 1.

³⁸ www.hunterwater.com.au

Northern Territory

The NT Power and Water Authority³⁹ is responsible for water supply and sewerage, with local government authorities responsible for stormwater.

Queensland

In Queensland, urban water supply and sewerage and stormwater are the responsibility of registered water service providers, comprising 125 local governments, two joint local governments, four urban water boards, 32 Aboriginal and Islander councils, 50 rural water and drainage boards. There are around 430 urban water supply schemes and 290 sewerage schemes in Queensland that cater for over 90 per cent and 80 per cent respectively of the population. 40

South Australia

The South Australian government's submission explains that the South Australian Water Corporation (SA Water) owns, manages and operates the great majority of South Australia's water supply and sewerage systems. SA Water is wholly owned by the State Government.

Most of the State's stormwater infrastructure is controlled and maintained by Local Government drainage authorities. However major urban and rural drainage systems are also maintained by the State.⁴¹

Tasmania

In Tasmania, three bulk water supply companies (Hobart Water,⁴² Esk Water,⁴³ and Cradle Coast Water⁴⁴) sell water to the councils and major industrial users in their respective areas. Sewage and stormwater services are the responsibility of 28 councils around the state.⁴⁵

Victoria

Water services to residential, commercial and industrial customers within the Melbourne metropolitan area are supplied by four businesses. Melbourne Water⁴⁶ is a statutory corporation wholly owned by the Victorian Government. The organisation's main functions are to:

³⁹ www.nt.gov.au/pawa

⁴⁰ Queensland Environment Protection Authority, *Submission 43*, p 2.

⁴¹ Government of South Australia, Submission 51, p 5.

⁴² www.hobartwater.com.au

^{43 &}lt;u>www.eskwater.com.au</u>

⁴⁴ www.ccwater.com.au

⁴⁵ The Australian Water Directory 2001, Australian Water Association, p 34.

⁴⁶ www.melbournewater.com.au

- manage Melbourne's water supply catchments;
- be a wholesale supplier of water to the retail water companies servicing metropolitan Melbourne;
- manage the treatment and disposal of 95 per cent of Melbourne's wastewater; and
- manage major drainage services across the greater Melbourne area.

Three companies retail water in Melbourne: City West Water,⁴⁸ South East Water⁴⁹ and Yarra Valley Water.⁵⁰ In addition, fifteen non-metropolitan urban water statutory authorities provide water services for urban areas across Victoria.⁵¹

Local stormwater is the responsibility of local government.

Western Australia

In Western Australia, the Water Corporation of Western Australia provides water services to 1.9 million people in both urban and rural communities, including more than 300 towns and 89 wastewater treatment plants.⁵² Another supplier is the Aqwest – Bunbury Water Board,⁵³ which provides water services to the city of Bunbury, with a population of 30,000.

Stormwater services are the responsibility of local government.

Role of local governments

As shown above, local governments around Australia are responsible for varying aspects of urban water supply, wastewater treatment, and stormwater drainage. Importantly, local government also manages local planning, zoning and approval processes, giving it a key role in land management issues within urban areas.

Industry associations

A number of associations play an active role in urban water policy in Australia:

- Australian Local Government Association;
- Australian Water Association;
- Stormwater Industry Association;

⁴⁷ Melbourne Water, Submission 46, p 2.

⁴⁸ www.citywestwater.com.au

⁴⁹ www.southeastwater.com.au

^{50 &}lt;u>www.yarravalleywater.com.au</u>

Victorian Water Industry Association, Submission 42, p 2.

Water Corporation of Western Australia, Submission 49, p 3.

⁵³ www.aqwest.wa.gov.au

- Victorian Water Industry Association; and
- Water Services Association Australia.

Australian Local Government Association (ALGA)⁵⁴

ALGA is a federation of associations representing local government across Australia. ALGA's significance to urban water management also lies in its participation as a signatory of the COAG agreements.

Australian Water Association (AWA)⁵⁵

The AWA is a professional membership organisation formed in 1962 to promote the responsible management of water and its related resources. The association has approximately 4,000 members, including both organisations and individuals.

Stormwater Industry Association (SIA)⁵⁶

SIA is the general membership association for people and organisations involved with, or concerned about, stormwater in Australia. The Association aims to promote the use of more efficient and integrated stormwater management.

Victorian Water Industry Association (VicWater)⁵⁷

VicWater was established in 1996, and is the peak body representing water utilities across the metropolitan urban, non-metropolitan urban, and rural sectors of the Victorian water industry.

Water Services Association Australia (WSAA)⁵⁸

WSAA represents the 21 largest urban water suppliers (those having 50,000 or more connections) who service 64 per cent of the Australian population. The operations of this group are reported in the annual WSAAfacts.

It should be noted that a further 16 per cent of water is supplied by the 66 non-metropolitan (NMU) authorities with between 10,000 and 50,000 connections. Their operations are documented in the annual *NMU Report*.⁵⁹

⁵⁴ www.alga.com.au

^{55 &}lt;u>www.awa.asn.au</u> and Australian Water Association, Submission 41.

^{56 &}lt;u>www.stormwater.asn.au</u> and Stormwater Industry Association, Submission 37.

⁵⁷ www.vicwater.org.au and Victorian Water Industry Association, Submission No 42.

⁵⁸ www.wsaa.asn.au and Water Services Association of Australia, Submission 55.

⁵⁹ The Australian Water Directory 2001, Australian Water Association, p 29.

Role of Catchment Management Authorities

It is evident that institutional and planning arrangements should reflect the water cycle. In practice, this approach is referred to as Total Catchment Management or Integrated Catchment Management (ICM).

Most jurisdictions have adopted the principles of ICM, and created catchment management groups, although the roles vary around Australia.

In South Australia, there are eight Catchment Water Management Boards operating under the *Water Resources Act 1997*. The Boards have three main legislative functions:

- prepare and implement a Catchment Water Management Plan;
- provide advice to the Minister and Councils about water resource management; and
- promote awareness and involvement in best practice water management. 60

In NSW, 18 Catchment Management Boards operate under the *Catchment Management Act 1989* and the Catchment Management Regulations 1999, and focus on five specific tasks:

- a) identifying the opportunities, problems and threats associated with the use of natural resources to support rural production and protection and enhancement of the environment;
- b) identifying the first order objectives and targets, within the overall legislative and policy framework, for the use and management of the region's natural resources;
- c) developing management options, strategies and actions to address the identified objectives and targets;
- d) assisting in developing a greater understanding within the community of the issues identified and action required to support rural production and enhance the environment; and
- e) initiating proposals for projects and assess against the targets, all projects submitted for funding under Commonwealth and State natural resource management grant programs.⁶¹

⁶⁰ South Australia Catchment Water Management Boards site, at: www.catchments.net

Department of Land and Water Conservation (NSW) site at: www.dlwc.nsw.gov.au Catchment Management Boards. Note also the role of the Sydney Catchment Authority, which operates under its own legislation: www.sca.nsw.gov.au

In Victoria the Catchment Management Authorities (CMAs) were established in 1997. The primary goal of each CMA is to ensure the protection and restoration of land and water resources, the sustainable development of natural resources-based industries and the conservation of the natural and cultural heritage. Each CMA comprises a board, implementation committees, and staff, and they are responsible for the strategic direction for land and water management in their Region; development of detailed work programs and the oversight of on-ground program delivery. Catchment Management Groups in the ACT, and the Catchment Coordinating Committees in Queensland have similar functions.

The Northern Territory government has an Integrated Catchment Management Plan process, and WaterWatch groups, but does not appear to have established specific agencies to deal with catchment management. It is unclear the extent to which Tasmania and Western Australia have adopted catchment based management arrangements.

The largest example of a catchment management institution in Australia is the Murray Darling Basin Commission, whose role and structure was outlined earlier. The MDBC manages the water resources of the entire basin, including multiple catchment areas, across numerous state and local government boundaries. As Dr Blackmore, the Chief Executive Officer of the MDBC explained to the Committee, integrated catchment management:

is an emerging and poorly understood concept, ... we still structure ourselves as a society pretty much on single issues and, unfortunately, our landscapes do not work that way. We are trying to bring about a change in thinking so that all the values that are important to a landscape are taken into account. We are a regional organisation.⁶⁷

⁶² Department of Natural Resources and Environment (Victoria) site at: www.nre.vic.gov.au

⁶³ See Environment ACT, Integrated Catchment Management Framework for the ACT – Implementation Plan, June 2001–2003

⁶⁴ See www.landcareqld.org.au/catchment

⁶⁵ See NT Water Watch site at: www.lpe.nt.gov.au/care/waterwatch/default.htm

Western Australia is currently considering creating CMAs: Water and Rivers Commission WA, *Submission 12*, p 2. The Tasmanian government did not provide a submission to the inquiry.

⁶⁷ Dr Blackmore, *Proof Committee Hansard*, Canberra, 23 May 2002, p 558.