

Additional Budget Estimates February 2018

Cross Portfolio Murray Darling Basin Plan Matters

Environment and Energy Portfolio – Friday 2 March 2018

Question No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Title	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or In Writing	Comment
1	CEWO	Patrick	Drafting of correspondence	<p>Ms Swirepik: The document has been drafted within the office of the Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, but it has never got to the point of reaching the previous Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder and being sent.</p> <p>CHAIR: That's fine. It was important to get the providence of it so we didn't spend—</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: I agree, Chair. Can you tell me who drafted this document?</p> <p>Ms Swirepik: I believe it was drafted by our policy section, but I can't tell you a particular name.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: What level of seniority?</p> <p>Ms Swirepik: Probably an Executive Level 2 or below.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: Can you take on notice who actually drafted this? Obviously, when you put together a draft—and it looks relatively polished—you base the draft on something. Maybe the committee might need to call that person to find out what they were thinking when they drafted that. Because what it says is, 'Transparency of the MDBA's assessment of water resources plans and associated modelling tools is critical to not only assuring myself but also other stakeholders across the Basin.' He then—</p>	Page 20	SQ18-000311

				<p>Mr Thompson: It forms part of draft advice within the organisation. In my experience, it would be very unusual to call that officer to talk to that issue. It was not a signed letter.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: That's a decision for the committee.</p> <p>Mr Thompson: It is a decision for the committee. I'm making a comment.</p> <p>Senator PATRICK: If you could provide the name, that might be useful.</p>		
2	CEWO	Patrick	Over Land Flow – Licences	How much Over Land Flow (OLF) licences does the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office hold by valley?	Written	SQ18-000120
3	CEWO	Patrick	Water from Over Land Flow licence	How much water from each OLF licence is expected to return to each river, by valley and name of the river?	Written	SQ18-000121
4	CEWO	Patrick	Over Land Flow – work program	What is the identified work program to date to ensure that flows under an OLF licence are not captured by other irrigators on the floodplain or extracted by other irrigators in the river?	Written	SQ18-000122
5	CEWO	Patrick	Purchasing Over Land Flow licences	What advice has the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office provided to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources regarding purchasing OLF licences specifically, rather than water entitlements from a river, in the Lower Balonne and Warrego valleys?	Written	SQ18-000123
6	CEWO	Patrick	Over Land Flow – private storages	<p>Has the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office got any arrangements in place, or undertaken any negotiations, regarding the use of private storages?</p> <p>If so, what are the details of those arrangements or negotiations?</p>	Written	SQ18-000124
7	CEWO	Patrick	Over Land Flow –	Has the Commonwealth Environmental Water Office got	Written	SQ18-000125

			Clyde property	any arrangements in place, or undertaken any negotiations, regarding the use of private storages for the Clyde property?		
8	CEWO	Hanson-Young	OPD 708 correspondence	I refer to the Senate General Business Notice of Motion 708 of 13 February 2018, ordering the production of documents relating to the Murray-Darling Basin. What correspondence was received by the Department of the Environment, Commonwealth Environment Water Office or the Murray-Darling Basin Authority from the Minister or the office of the Minister between 13 and 14 February regarding to the order for production of documents?	Written	SQ18-000127
9	CEWO	Hanson-Young	OPD 708	Could you provide a copy of the entirety of what was prepared for the Order for Production of Documents by the Commonwealth Environment Water Office?	Written	SQ18-000128
10	CEWO	Hanson-Young	Correspondence to and from David Papps	Can you confirm that an unsigned letter by then-Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder, David Papps, was received by the Murray Darling Basin Authority in early 2018? Could you please provide a copy of this letter. What date was the letter sent to Mr Phillip Glyde?	Written	SQ18-000129
11	CEWO	Hanson-Young	Correspondence to and from David Papps – confirmation of receipt	Mr Glyde notes in his answers on 2 March 2018 that he did not receive a signed letter. Did Mr Glyde, or a representative thereof, receive an unsigned copy of the letter? Could you confirm that a response was sent from an assistant to Mr Phillip Glyde, confirming receipt shortly thereafter? Could you please provide a copy of this response.	Written	SQ18-000130
12	CEWO	Hanson-	Correspondence to	It is noted that the letter would have been seen, in iterations,	Written	SQ18-000131

		Young	and from David Papps – clearance of letter	by a number of people prior to its sending. Who was the most senior officer that cleared the letter to Mr Glyde, and what position did they hold at the time the letter was sent?		
13	CEWO	Hanson-Young	Correspondence to and from David Papps – written documents	Can you please provide any written documents that relate to the drafting of the letter, including feedback or comments.	Written	SQ18-000132