

**Senate Standing Committee on Environment and Communications**  
**Legislation Committee**  
Answers to questions on notice  
**Environment portfolio**

**Question No:** 177  
**Hearing:** Supplementary Budget Estimates  
**Outcome:** Outcome 4  
**Programme:** Water  
**Topic:** ON FARM IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY PROGRAM  
**Hansard Page:** N/A  
**Question Date:** 29 October 2014  
**Question Type:** Written

**Senator Xenophon, Nick asked:**

What remedial action is available to the Department to address issues of non-compliance?

**Answer:**

All Delivery Partners under the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program sign a Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth. The Funding Agreement with the Commonwealth contains clauses to ensure projects are undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Funding Agreement and its associated Schedule. The Schedule requires Delivery Partners to report at intervals on the progress of the projects including the expenditure of funding and project status. Delivery Partners are responsible for continuously reviewing projects and inspecting final completion of infrastructure projects.

All Funding Agreements contain clauses which enable remedial action if non-compliance occurs. These actions range from the full termination of the Funding Agreement to reductions in scope of the Funding Agreement.

The On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program has in place a Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Improvement framework where under this framework projects are evaluated as part of technical and financial reviews.

To date we have had not had any issues of non-compliance by a Delivery Partner that have required the Commonwealth to seek a reduction in scope or termination of a Funding Agreement.