
From: Harwood, Mary
Sent: Wednesday, 23 May 2012 7:14 PM
To: Committee, EC (SEN)
Cc:
Subject: DSEWPAC BUDGET ESTIMATES - EVIDENCE CORRECTION RELATING TO WATER PURCHASE ESTIMATED EXPENDITURE [SEC=UNCLASSIFIED]

Importance: High

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600
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Dear Sir/Madam

I need to make a correction to the evidence I gave at the end of this afternoon's Budget Estimates hearing in relation to Outcome 4 for the Department of Sustainability, the Environment, Water, Population and Communities.

Senator Birmingham requested information on the expected expenditure on water purchase (under the *Restoring the Balance in the Murray-Darling Basin Program*) for 2012-13 and the forward estimates.

In answering his question I drew his attention to page 101 of the Portfolio Budget Submission and said that for the years 2013-14 to 2015-16, the amount listed on page 101 as 'purchase of non-financial assets' is the amount of estimated Bill 2 expenditure on water purchase.

The correction I need to make is that in 2015-16 there is a small amount - \$3.962 million out of the total figure of \$414.362 million shown on page 101 - which is in fact for other expected Bill 2 expenses. The correct figure for expected Bill 2 expenditure on water purchase in 2015-16 is therefore **\$410.4 million**.

I apologise for not providing the correct figure for 2015-16 in my evidence today.

I would appreciate your bringing the corrected figure to Senator Birmingham's attention as he specifically requested expenditure figures water purchase for 2012-13 to 2015-16.

Kind regards

Mary Harwood
First Assistant Secretary
Water Efficiency Division