

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – SUPPLEMENTARY BUDGET ESTIMATES – 17-18 OCTOBER 2011

SUSTAINABILITY, ENVIRONMENT, WATER, POPULATION AND COMMUNITIES PORTFOLIO

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
1	1.1: AGLC	Macdonald	Funding from Caring for our Country	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b>... You told me at a previous estimates that northern and remote Australia had received funding from the Caring for Our Country program in 2008-09 and then in 2009-10, which was 13 per cent of the total funding. Would someone be able to tell me if, in the financial year just passed whether northern and remote Australia as a percentage retained the same 13 per cent? Could you also tell me what that represented in cash dollars?</p> <p><b>Mr Flanigan:</b> It might be best for me to take that one on notice. I would have it here but I think it might take me a while to dig it out. That is the percentage from the last financial period for northern and remote targets?</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> I have them for 2008-09 and 2009-10 and I am interested in the 2010-11.</p> <p><b>Mr Flanigan:</b> Okay, Senator.</p>	105-106 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
2	1.1: AGLC	Macdonald	Funding under Caring for our Country for weeds and feral animal management	<p><b>Mr Flanigan:</b> Senator Macdonald, I will just add—in real terms to date, we have had some \$71 million worth of projects funded under the Caring for our Country banner which have dealt with weeds and pests. We will take it on notice and give you a bit of a breakdown.</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> Yes, if you could get me a list of those projects, I would be delighted to look at it.</p>	106 (17/10/11)	06/12/11 + 3 att's	09/02/12
3	1.1: AGLC	Birmingham	Regional participation under Caring for our Country	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What steps, if any, are being taken to ensure there is a more comprehensive approach to setting priorities under the Caring for our Country program and provide for regional and local level participation?</li> <li>2. What steps, if any, are being taken to ensure that regional plans with local level participation are supported and integrated into State and Commonwealth programs such as Caring for our Country?</li> <li>3. What steps, if any, are being taken to ensure that regional arrangements will be improved and audited/ accredited in some manner to ensure that regional groups work well with and support local level groups, including landcare groups, to undertake on-ground works that cumulate to benefit regional, state and national outcomes?</li> <li>4. What work, if any, is being undertaken within the Caring for our Country program to improve or develop relationships between regional groups and landcare groups?</li> <li>5. Is the caring for our country program any closer to being able to monitor on-ground resource condition change, or monitor outcomes rather than outputs?</li> </ol> <p>[?Aren't some regional groups implementing in-field monitoring and will there</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

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				be better funding for actual in-field monitoring?]			
4	1.1: AGLC	Birmingham	Regional planning of land sector measures	1. What coordination, if any, will there be between regional planning under the land sector measures under the Government's Clean Energy Plan and existing regional planning under Caring for our Country? What steps, if any, are being taken to ensure there is no duplication or inefficiency between carbon abatement measures and broader environmental objectives?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
5	1.1: AGLC	Siewert	Working on Country	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Currently how many rangers are employed?</li> <li>2. How many rangers will be employed by the end of June 2013?</li> <li>3. What has been the annual growth in rangers in the period since 2007 under this program?</li> <li>4. What percentage of the rangers are employed servicing areas within the National Reserve System (either IPAs or other reserves) and what percentage are working in areas outside the reserve system?</li> <li>5. What is the area in hectares or square kilometres that the Working on Country rangers support in terms of actively managing the environment?</li> <li>6. The WoC programs and IPA programs are obviously separate but to some degree complementary, what efforts are being made to ensure the two programs work together effectively?</li> <li>7. Is it intended that this program continue into the future beyond 2013?</li> <li>8. Are groups being consulted about the future of the program?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
6	1.1: AGLC	Waters	Reef Rescue	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What funding would be needed to continue this program in its current form for a further five years beyond its current funding?</li> <li>2. What additional benefits / outcomes from the program could be expected if the program (widely recognised as highly successful) were to continue for five more years?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
7	1.1: PAD	Waters	Acquisition of Bimblebox property under the National Reserve System	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> I am interested in a particular property called Bimblebox, which is partially protected under Queensland state laws, but also I understand some Commonwealth funding was provided under the National Reserve System back in 2000 for the acquisition of the property. It is 8,000 hectares near Alpha in Central Western Queensland. Can you confirm for me how much Commonwealth funding was provided in the acquisition, protection or management of Bimblebox?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> I do not have that detail in front of me, so I would have to take that specific one on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Yes, if you could. Do you understand what the purpose of that protection was? What qualities were recognised as part of that funding?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> I do, but I cannot recall specifically. Again, I would need to take that on notice, sorry.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Is the department aware of the massive 30 megatonne open cut coal mine proposal by Waratah Coal, which would directly destroy half of</p>	104-105 (17/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12

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				<p>the property and turn the other half into a long wall mine?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> We are certainly aware of the proposal and that it is subject to an EPBC Act assessment, as I understand it.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Do you provide any advice to the EPBC assessment team on the propriety or otherwise of approving that application?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> We would provide advice on the values of the property, correct.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Has that advice been provided as yet?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> Yes, it would have been.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Are we able to see a copy of that advice?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> That is a good question.</p> <p><b>Dr Grimes:</b> I think you are referring to matters that are under consideration through the EPBC assessment process. If you have further questions, it may be appropriate to take it up tomorrow morning when we come to the EPBC matters. We will have to see what we could provide. But I would assume at this stage, if it is a matter under consideration, we would not be in a position to provide you with that information at this stage.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Okay, so that is a public interest claim of not appropriate?</p> <p><b>Dr Grimes:</b> I think it probably would be better to pick this up tomorrow morning when we have the officers who may be involved the matter.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Thanks, I will do.</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> When we have done the assessment, and you have asked a question about the values of the property, that will probably substantially be our advice.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> If you would be able to provide that, it would be helpful.</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> We can identify why the property was purchased.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Thank you. Can you identify how a coalmine is consistent with the values of this Commonwealth-purchased property, using taxpayer funds?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> Again, it is a proposal that is under assessment.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Whatever you can give me would be great and I will wait for the rest when the time comes.</p>			
8	1.1: PAD	Waters	Tourism activity or development in Kakadu National Park	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> I have a few questions about Kakadu National Park. Could you tell me the number, the type and the specific location of each tourism activity or development in Kakadu National Park since the introduction of the tourism master plan in 2010, including those areas that were within the former wilderness zone?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> Off the top of my head, there has been no new infrastructure development in the park since the tourism master plan was released. There are a number of proposals that traditional owners are exploring. I cannot think of whether any new businesses have been established since then. There are some</p>	98 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

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				<p>new businesses that were establishing at about the same time as we finalised the tourism master plan, but I would be pretty confident there are no infrastructure developments that have followed since then. I would like to take that on notice so that I could be sure of my answer.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> I would be very happy with that. Any tourism activity or development—so broader than just infrastructure.</p>			
9	1.1: PAD	Birmingham	Income from revenue generation in Kakadu National Park	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Possibly time prevented us from getting to some issues under the PBS that I would have raised during budget estimates, but the income from your own revenue generation drops substantially from 2010-11 into the forward estimate years. The only explanation or statement in here is sale of goods and services will also reduce in 2011-12 by \$6.6 million, which is primarily a result of terminating agreements. Are you able to explain to us what those terminating agreements are and why you lose that income stream?</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> Yes, but to give you an accurate answer let me just chase that. They are not actually a reduction. One of them is related to the Gunlom rehabilitation project, which is the rehabilitation project that we had to remedy the impact of those old uranium mines in the upper South Alligator River region. You may recall, we received \$7 million over four years to undertake that project. That project was completed and that money then terminated. That was a significant part of that drop. Again, I may need to take that on notice, because I must confess I came prepared for all of those questions at budget estimates but I do not have it in front of me. Can I take that one on notice, please?</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Yes, if you could, and just provide an outline, because even the one you highlighted strikes me as an unusual one to have been included in your own source revenue category, that would normally be from your own sales of goods and services, rather than necessarily grants for a particular environmental project of the type you identified.</p> <p><b>Mr Cochrane:</b> And in fact you are correct. Let me take this on notice to make sure you get the accurate answer on that.</p>	98-99 (17/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12
10	1.1: PAD	Birmingham	PAD Staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Within The Director of National Parks how many divisions are there and what are their names?</li> <li>2. How many staff are there in each of these divisions?</li> <li>3. Where is each division located and what are their staffing numbers?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
11	1.1: PAD	Birmingham	PAD Accommodation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many office locations are there within The Director of National Parks and where is each located?</li> <li>2. What is the size of each of these offices and are they leased or owned?</li> <li>3. If the office is rented, what is the amount and what is the breakdown of rent per square metre?</li> <li>4. What is the value of the buildings owned and what is the depreciation of those buildings?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
12	1.1: PAD	Birmingham	PAD Expenditure	<p>1. Provide details on expenditure for 2010-11 for The Director of National Parks on the following: advertising, travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international), hospitality and entertainment, ICT, consultancy, education/training of staff, external accounting, external auditing, external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations?</p> <p>2. Provide a further breakdown of the above expenditure for each division with the Director of National Parks: advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>3. Within each divisional area, provide a further breakdown of expenditure under each Executive Manager: advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>4. Please provide a breakdown over the forward estimates of each program or activity including: program title, program summary, is the program ongoing, lapsing, or terminating , breakdown of administered and departmental costs, program staffing numbers and location?</p>	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
13	1.1: PAD	Waters	Tourism in Kakadu National Park	<p>1. In relation to Kakadu National Park, how many tourism ventures are being considered or proposed in the former 475,000ha wilderness zone? How many of these are being proposed by traditional owners?</p> <p>2. What is the nature of each proposed tourism venture and where are they located within the former wilderness zone in Kakadu National Park?</p> <p>3. Please advise how each of these proposed tourism ventures are consistent with protecting the wilderness values within the Kakadu National Park?</p> <p>4. What public processes are available to members of the public who are interested in the protection of wilderness values in Kakadu National Park to ensure these concerns are taken into account in any assessment and determination of the proposed tourism venture in the former wilderness zone of Kakadu National Park?</p> <p>5. Can you please advise what % of the park is off limits to any developments due to the protection of sacred sites registered under Northern Territory legislation. What other areas of the park are off limits to tourism activities and developments – please advice total percentage area as well as</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

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				geographical areas.			
14	1.1: PAD	Waters	Bimblebox nature refuge	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What environmental qualities were recognised in providing Commonwealth funding to contribute to the purchase of the Bimblebox Nature Refuge?</li> <li>2. Please provide a copy of the advice that the DNP had provided to SEWPAC EPBC Assessments area with regard to the current proposals to mine the Bimblebox Nature Refuge area. If confidentiality of this advice to the Department/ Minister is claimed, please detail the public interest grounds on which this claim is based.</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
15	1.1: PAD	Siewert	Indigenous Protected Areas	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the current estimated area under declared IPAs now in Australia (in hectares or square kilometers)?</li> <li>2. What has been the annual growth in area of declared IPAs over the last 10 years?</li> <li>3. On the website it indicates that Indigenous Protected Areas now represent 23% by area of Australia's National Reserve System is that still correct?</li> <li>4. What is the current annual cost to support all the existing declared Indigenous Protected Areas?</li> <li>5. There are a number of IPAs still in consultation phase according to the maps on your website? Do you have enough resources to support their implementation?</li> <li>6. Is any funding guaranteed beyond June 2013?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
16	1.1: PAD	Nash	Government investment in Henbury Station	<p>In relation to Henbury Station:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On what grounds has the Government funded the investment by RMW Agricultural Holdings?</li> <li>2. Who stands to profit from the Henbury Station/RMWAH investment?</li> <li>3. How will the taxpayer benefit from the Governments RMWAH investment?</li> <li>4. Will this type of Government investment opportunity (RMWAH) be available to other small private operators, in the Northern beef industry?</li> <li>5. Does the Government intend funding further baseline audits to allow other organisations to develop similar proposals, such as the RMWAH deal, for their business?</li> <li>6. Did the Government undertake any research into the likely impacts on profitability of the remainder of the beef industry in the same region as Henbury Station? Ie. Leaving those still operating in the area to bear a proportionately higher cost of service industry overheads. If research was conducted, can this be provided?</li> <li>7. Did the Government research what impacts the Henbruy Station contraction of local industry may have on the capital value of the other properties in the same area? ie. Given that profitability will be reduced and that</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

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				reduced social strength will make the region less attractive to investment by tradition food producers. Could this research be provided?			
17	1.2: IMD	Waters	Environmental information	<p>1. The State of the Environment report is due this year – is it still on track, when can we expect it to be published?</p> <p>2. The National Environmental Information Plan says legislation will be introduced to underpin the Plan (especially BoM’s role) – where is this legislation at, when will it be introduced?</p> <p>3. Also under the National Environmental Information Plan, the Department is to review Australian Government activity in environmental information to identify opportunities for cooperation, consolidation, improvement or efficiencies</p> <p>a. How has this progressed to date? What opportunities for better quality and accessibility of information have been identified to date?</p> <p>4. The National Environmental Information Plan itself seems to focus on coordination / standardisation of data. What are Department’s priorities and resourcing in relation to collection of new environmental data to support better decision-making?</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
18	1.2: Marine	Siewert	South-west Marine Bioregional Planning - submissions	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> How are they now going to be dealt with and treated? Will the 39,266 be treated as individual submissions?</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley:</b> You will be delighted to know that staff of the marine division have read every single one of those 39,266 submissions.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> I would expect nothing less.</p> <p><b>Mr Oxley:</b> Each of those submissions has been reviewed by the department. A proportion of those submissions—I do not have the numbers in detail; that would need to be taken on notice—a significant number, probably over 50 per cent, are straight up and down the recommended words that were associated with those campaigns. Nonetheless, there are a significant number of campaign derived submissions in which the individuals who made those submissions have made an effort to reflect their own personal views or experiences of the marine environment.</p>	108 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
19	1.2: Marine	Siewert	Marine Bioregional Planning South-west consultation process	<p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> Was Save Our Fish Stocks from Denmark, Albany/South Coast invited or participated?</p> <p><b>Mr Clark:</b> I have not got the details of that group specifically here, but at Margaret River we had representatives from local fishing groups attend the open day. There were a number of them who were not able to make specific times earlier on in the day, so they came in the evenings as individuals but had an interest obviously from that recreational fishing sector.</p> <p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> The Denmark group were likely to have gone to Albany. Could you take on notice to see if Save Our Fish Stocks were invited?</p> <p><b>Mr Clark:</b> Yes.</p>	109 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

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20	1.2: Marine	Birmingham	South-west marine reserve	1. Has a socio-economic assessment of the proposed South-west Commonwealth marine reserves network been completed? Has it been made public? If not, will it be?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
21	1.2: Marine	Boswell	Coral Sea marine bioregional planning process	<p>1. The Minister has recently advised that the Coral Sea Bioregional Process will be fast tracked. Is there a date set for the release of the draft proposal?. Will the fast tracking of the Coral Sea Bioregional process alter the length of the consultation period?</p> <p>2. Can the Minister advise if the Management plan for the Coral Sea will be provided as part of the public consultation process?</p> <p>3. Will the department provide budgeted management costings for the Coral Sea bioregional proposal?</p> <p>4. The Coral Sea Island territories extend up to 600 Nautical miles off shore in some areas - has the cost of management enforcement been taken into consideration for these areas?</p> <p>5. Has the science used to justify any additional closures or restrictions been independently peer reviewed and if so will that data be made available during the public consultation period?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
22	1.2: Marine	Boswell	East Marine region	<p>1. When does the public consultation for the East Marine region commence and will this include the Coral Sea.</p> <p>2. Can you provide information on the proposed zoning for these Areas for Further Assessment and the Coral Sea.</p> <p>3. What types of fishing operations are conducted in these areas and how will this proposed zoning impact on these various fishing operations.</p> <p>4. Are there any specific fishing operations that will be excluded under the proposed zoning. If so, what is the rationale behind any potential exclusion of fishing types. I note in the South West draft plan trawl gear is excluded from any of the zones, can you advise why this is the case and if the intention is to adopt similar zoning approach to the North and East regions of Queensland. I take this opportunity to remind the Minister there remains an active well managed trawl fishery in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park (a world heritage listed reserve) and any attempts to single out and exclude trawling will be met with very real concern.</p> <p>5. As you would be aware trawling in multiple use areas occurs in the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park however under the draft plan released in the South West, North and North West trawling is excluded from multiple use areas. Can you provide a detailed explanation and rationale for this significant change.</p> <p>6. Has your department done an assessment of the individual business and real cost to impacted communities of closing further areas for marine protection and does this assessment include provision for future prospectivity losses.</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
23	1.2: Marine	Siewert	Marine	1. Is there a Budget for the Marine Bioregional Planning program –	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12



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			Bioregional Planning - Budget	specifically to fund the election commitment to implement a national system of marine reserves by 2012? 2. How is cost being assessed by the Department with respect to the proposals for marine reserves? Is it a flat rate GVP only, or have other measures been considered?			
24	1.2: Marine	Siewert	North-west bioregional planning	1. I seek further information about the use of seismic data to establish the ecological values of the bioregion a) What are the sources of the data used to develop the NW Bioregion? b) What independent data been used? c) What Department commissioned data has been used? d) What data collected in the process of granting oil and gas leases has been used? 2. Is the NW considered of lesser ecological value than the other bio-regions? a) If not, why does it have substantially fewer marine protected areas? b) Have DRET had any input into the development of these plans? c) Has the oil and gas industry had any input into the development of these plans?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
25	1.2: Marine	Siewert	Dieback TAP	1. What is the status of the new Threat Abatement Plan? 2. Can you please provide information on: a. The timeline to completion b. Who has been consulted c. Any research that has been commissioned by the Department 3. Will the TAP contain SMART goals? If not, what format will it take?	Written	06/12/11 + 1 att't	09/02/12
26	1.2: Marine	Colbeck	South-west marine bioregional planning process	1. Please provide details of any changes to the original SWB marine reserves network proposal put to the fishing industry by SEWPac in May 2011. 2. What is the consultation process regarding changes to the original SWB marine reserves network? 3. What consultations have taken place with industry regarding changes to the original SWB marine reserves network? 4. Provide details of the science and other data that support to the location of the original SWB marine reserves network and of any proposed changes to the original proposal. 5. What is the anticipated cost of implementing these marine reserves? 6. What is the total expected compensation cost? 7. What is the anticipated value of the compensation package for the Rock lobster industry? 8. How were these expected compensations costs calculated? 9. Has the fishing industry and other affected industries agreed to those calculations? 10. What are the ongoing annualised costs of administering these reserves,	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

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				including the costs of ensuring compliance with the reserves? 11. How will these costs be recouped? 12. Have any agencies or organisations been approached regarding the administration and compliance monitoring of these reserves? 13. If so, at what stage are the negotiations?			
27	1: BOM	Birmingham	Mt Stapylton weather radar	With reference to the inability of Mt Stapylton Radar to supply radar imaging to web users on the morning of 8 October 2011 while severe thunderstorms were affecting Brisbane and South East Queensland: 1. At what time, and by what means, did the Bureau advise Emergency Management Queensland that the Mt Stapylton Radar was not operational? 2. What was found to be the cause of the "technical or equipment problems" given as the reason for the radar service's unavailability on a website error message? 3. When was the system restored to full operation and what was the duration of the outage? 4. How many users attempted to access the radar through the website during the outage? 5. Since this radar became operational, please provide details of: a. the time, date, duration, and causes of each occasion that the Mt Stapylton Radar was unable to provide the public (through the www.bom.gov.au website) with radar imaging due to equipment, technical or other non-scheduled maintenance or system failures. b. if, and when, any of these occasions coincided with periods during which South East Queensland was the subject of a severe weather or thunderstorm warning.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
28	1: BOM	Birmingham	BOM Staffing	1. Within The Bureau of Meteorology how many divisions are there and what are their names? 2. How many staff are there in each of these divisions? 3. Where is each division located and what are their staffing numbers?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
29	1: BOM	Birmingham	BOM Accommodation	1. How many office locations are there within The Bureau of Meteorology and where is each located? 2. What is the size of each of these offices and are they leased or owned? 3. If the office is rented, what is the amount and what is the breakdown of rent per square metre? 4. What is the value of the buildings owned and what is the depreciation of those buildings?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
30	1: BOM	Birmingham	BOM Expenditure	1. Provide details on expenditure for 2010-11 for the Bureau of Meteorology on the following; advertising, travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international), hospitality and entertainment, ICT, consultancy, education/training of staff, external accounting, external auditing,	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12

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				<p>external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations?</p> <p>2. Provide a further breakdown of the above expenditure for each division with the Bureau of Meteorology: advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>3. Within each divisional area, provide a further breakdown of expenditure under each Executive Manager: : advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>4. Please provide a breakdown over the forward estimates of each program or activity including: program title, program summary, is the program ongoing, lapsing, or terminating , breakdown of administered and departmental costs, program staffing numbers and location?</p>			
31	1: BOM	Birmingham	Hydrological monitoring	<p>1. Please provide an update on work being done on hydrological monitoring systems in the Murray-Darling Basin.</p> <p>2. Is this program being terminated at the end of this financial year? What has been achieved?</p> <p>3. Where are there gaps in data? What is being done to address these gaps?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
32	1: BOM	Abetz	Australian Sea Level Monitoring Network	<p>1. Is the Bureau aware of the concerns voiced by Tonga's Director of Meteorology 'Ofa Fa'anunu that following the 7.6 undersea earthquake near the Kermadec Islands in early July that the Australian Sea Level Monitoring Network was 'out of order'?</p> <p>2. What action has the Bureau taken to reassure the Tongan Government that any issues have been resolved?</p> <p>3. Why was the Gauge out of order?</p> <p>4. For how long was the Gauge out of order?</p> <p>5. Were other countries in the region, who rely on the gauge, notified of it being out of order?</p> <p>a. If so, which counties and when?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
33	1: BOM	Waters	National Plan for Environmental Information	<p>1. Of all the environmental information collected / coordinated through this process, is the intention to have it all centrally in one place, for ease of access? What if any of the information collated will not also be made publicly available?</p> <p>2. What are the main challenges encountered so far in developing the NEIP in</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				coordinating the collection and collation of data from state, territory and local governments, and the private sector? 3. And in relation to the challenges identified in response to (2) what steps is the Commonwealth taking to draw this all together?			
34	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Turbidity in Gladstone Harbour	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> That is interesting because I visited there just recently and I spoke with a number of local vets who were performing the necropsies on many of the dead animals—many of them had full stomachs. So the view of the vets was that in fact it was not a seagrass issue, it was boat strikes arising from the huge increase in shipping traffic in the harbour to build the LNG facilities. A second reason, they thought, was that the deaths were due to the smothering of what little seagrass there was left by the dredge spoil—the turbidity in the harbour. Some two million cubic metres has already been dug up from the harbour in the last few months. Noting the recent Queensland government studies which found huge turbidity in September at a number of sites in the harbour, I am interested in what GBRMPA is doing about that, if anything. I am conscious that it is within the World Heritage area but not within the marine park boundaries. I have a few other questions which will touch on those jurisdictional issues.</p> <p><b>Mr McGinnity:</b> The information I just gave was for the whole of the coast—which was your original question. In terms of the harbour, there has been some increase in boat strike this year. I do not know the exact numbers related to that. In terms of the full stomach of the animals, I am not sure what you are referring to. For example, with the turtles the Queensland government looked at when they were looking at the Boyne Island turtle deaths—if they had full stomachs, they were full of mangroves rather than seagrass, which is their preferred diet. I would be happy to look into what you have and provide further information, but I am not aware of the material you are citing.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> That would be helpful.</p>	94 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
35	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Impact of dumping spoil near the marine park	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b>...I am interested in what advice you gave the minister on the impact of dumping that vast amount of spoil right on the borders of the marine park and within the World Heritage area.</p> <p><b>Dr Reichelt:</b> The advice has probably gone through the department on that proposal. I am not sure if it was part of the deposition made to the Senate or not, and possibly it would be for the department or the minister to release that information. Our typical advice would be to specify the conditions for the guidelines and what to have regard for in setting any conditions on that proposal. I am not sure I can go a lot further on the specific advice directed to the department. Perhaps they can confirm tomorrow morning whether or not that has been released.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> I would be interested to know what conditions you did</p>	94 (17/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				recommend and if they were adopted, if you have that information to hand. <b>Dr Reichelt:</b> I do not have it here and I think it would be more appropriate if I had time to take it on notice and discuss with the department whether that has already been published or not. It is possible it is on the public record already.			
36	1: GBRMPA	Macdonald	GBRMPA permit fees	<b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> I am told that applying for a GBRMPA permit would cost \$130,000. That cannot be correct? <b>Dr Reichelt:</b> It could be, depending on the scale of the proposal. There are permit application fees that apply. I could give you the scales of those. It depends on the size and the amount of— <b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> Perhaps you could do that on notice as time is limited tonight. <i>(Page 98)</i> <b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> Did I ask you to put on notice your schedule of charges and to explain them. <b>Dr Reichelt:</b> I took it that you had, but thanks for clarifying that. <b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> If I have not, could I please? <b>Dr Reichelt:</b> Yes.	95 and 98 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
37	1: GBRMPA	Macdonald	Causes of water quality in Upstart Bay	<b>Mr Skeat:</b> We cannot be clear about that, but the proponents took our advice and indicated that they would get back to us shortly. I hasten to add it was a very positive meeting regarding the exchange of information. <b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> On notice, could you give me a short description of the differences in the causes of the water quality in Upstart Bay as opposed to Abbot Bay—Upstart Bay being the outlet for all the Ayr, Home Hill and upriver cane farming operations, which are very substantial. In the Upstart Bay area there is hardly any agricultural activity to speak of. I would be interested to learn more about the two areas. Also, on notice, could you indicate how it would be possible to offset nutrient output in the Abbot Bay catchment? <b>Mr Skeat:</b> Yes.	97 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
38	1: GBRMPA	Birmingham	GBRMPA Staffing	1. Within The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority how many divisions are there and what are their names? 2. How many staff are there in each of these divisions? 3. Where is each division located and what are their staffing numbers?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
39	1: GBRMPA	Birmingham	GBRMPA Accommodation	1. How many office locations are there within The Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority and where is each located? 2. What is the size of each of these offices and are they leased or owned? 3. If the office is rented, what is the amount and what is the breakdown of rent per square metre? 4. What is the value of the buildings owned and what is the depreciation of those buildings?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
40	1: GBRMPA	Birmingham	GBRMPA	1. Provide details on expenditure for 2010-11 for The Great Barrier Reef	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
			Expenditure	<p>Marine Park Authority on the following: advertising, travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international), hospitality and entertainment, ICT, consultancy, education/training of staff, external accounting, external auditing, external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations?</p> <p>2. Provide a further breakdown of the above expenditure for each division with the Great barrier Reef Marine Park Authority: advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>3. Within each divisional area, provide a further breakdown of expenditure under each Executive Manager: : advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>4. Please provide a breakdown over the forward estimates of each program or activity including: program title, program summary, is the program ongoing, lapsing, or terminating , breakdown of administered and departmental costs, program staffing numbers and location?</p>			
41	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Turtle and Dugong deaths	<p>1. What are the GBR's data on dugong and turtle deaths this year along the Qld coast, and especially in the Gladstone area?</p> <p>2. How many turtles have euthanised due to lack of resources in turtle hospitals? Have more facilities been made available?</p> <p>3. What is GBRMPA doing about the disproportionate number of turtle strandings and deaths, dugong deaths and diseased fish in Gladstone harbour, within the WHA?</p> <p>4. Has GBRMPA examined the link between increased boat traffic for LNG port construction and increased dredging for those ports and the marine deaths? What findings has GBRMPA made?</p> <p>5. What extra budgetary allocations have been committed to ensure the response is adequate?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
42	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Gladstone Harbour	<p>1. What advice did GBRMPA give Minister Burke regarding the impacts of dumping the dredge spoil right near the boundaries of the marine parks area, when the various LNG dredging proposals were to be approved?</p> <p>2. What are cumulative figures of dredging in WHA approved in the last five years? Please provide advice regarding the approved projects (quantity of</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>material to be dredged, location, timing of dredging). Please provide same for approved offshore dumping.</p> <p>3. What are cumulative figures of dredging in WHA currently applied for? Please provide advice regarding the applied-for projects (quantity of material to be dredged, location, timing of dredging).</p> <p>4. What are cumulative figures of offshore dumping of dredge spoil in WHA approved in the last five years? What are cumulative figures of offshore dumping in WHA currently applied for? Please provide advice regarding the approved and applied-for projects (quantity of material to be dumped, location, timing).</p>			
43	1: GBRMPA	Waters	GBRMPA – World Heritage Area	<p>1. Does the Authority agree with the decision of the World Heritage Committee at its meeting of June 2011 regarding the impact of LNG facilities on the Outstanding Universal Values of the Great Barrier Reef? Does the Authority share the "extreme concern" of the World Heritage Committee regarding LNG development?</p> <p>2. Given the WHC has expressed 'extreme concern' regarding the impact of LNG development on the GBR world heritage area, what actions has the Authority taken to ensure that current approved projects will be properly managed? Can you provide details of the specific management interventions that are planned to protect the Outstanding Universal Values of the GBR and what money is being invested for each intervention?</p> <p>3. Given the current level of impacts on the World Heritage Area around Gladstone Harbor can you advise what impacts the proposed Xstrata coal port development on Balaclava island are likely to have on the World Heritage Values of the Great Barrier Reef?</p> <p>4. I note that the State and Federal Governments are to undertake a strategic assessment of coastal development on the Reef, in response to the World Heritage Committee's recommendation - have you advised the Minister on whether EPBC assessment of proposals currently in train should be placed on hold pending the completion of the Strategic Assessment? If so, what advice have you provided? Have you advised the Minister on whether EPBC approved projects should be suspended pending the completion of the Strategic Assessment? If so, what advice have you provided?</p> <p>5. Under what conditions would the Authority be supportive of approval powers under the EPBC being devolved to the State Government for projects which may have significant impacts on the World Heritage Values of the Great Barrier Reef?</p>	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
44	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Pesticides run off	<p>1. Does the Authority have any staff working on the issue of pesticides flowing into the Marine Park?</p> <p>2. Does the Authority have a budget dedicated to managing the risks</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>associated with declining water quality in the Marine Park. If so what is it?</p> <p>3. Has the Authority investigated the potential threat of cumulative impact of pesticides on the Great Barrier Reef, for example, the cumulative impact of diuron, atrazine and metachlor?</p> <p>4. I note the recent paper published by Davis et al. of the Queensland Environment Department (2011) in the Marine Pollution Bulletin, based on the results of the "Paddock to Reef" water quality monitoring program. In its work in this space has GBRMPA found, in line with this paper's findings, that the combined toxicity of herbicides is a far more serious threat to the Reef than previously thought?</p> <p>5. What advice has GBRMPA provided to SEWPAC and/ or APVMA in relation to the current APVMA review of Diuron?</p> <p>6. Would you agree it would be a serious concern to the Authority if diuron was found in the Great Barrier Reef catchment at toxic concentrations for extended periods?</p> <p>7. Are you aware that the results of the Paddock to Reef Monitoring Program, as published in the Marine Pollution Bulletin, found Diuron concentrations in Barratta Creek (near Ayr in north Queensland) exceeded ANZECC water quality guidelines trigger values for more than 30 consecutive days during the period December 2009-February 2010?</p> <p>8. Some years ago, GBRMPA was very concerned about water quality flowing from land-based aquaculture adjacent to the GBR Marine Park, and took action by regulating those developments. Given the clear evidence of harm to the Marine Park from land-based pesticides, why hasn't the Authority taken similar action?</p>			
45	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Vessel tracking in the Marine Park	<p>1. Has GBRMPA provided/ commissioned/ or received any advice on whether additional usage of marine pilots on board ships passing through the reef would reduce risk of incidents threatening the reef? If so, can you please provide a copy.</p> <p>2. Has GBRMPA provided/ commissioned/ or received any advice on the likely costs to industry of additional pilotage? If so, can you please provide a copy of this advice.</p> <p>3. Will the VTS extension to the Southern GBRWHA proposed by the Navigation Amendment Act extend VTS beyond ports and to entire inner and/or outer Reef area?</p> <p>4. What advice has GBRMPA provided to the Minister, or commissioned and/ or received internally on:</p> <p>a. the projected increased shipping through the reef associated with the LNG and coal export boom</p> <p>b. the likely impacts/ risks for the reef associated with this shipping?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				c. options to deal with the risks associated with this increased shipping? 5. Please provide a copy of any such advice.			
46	1: GBRMPA	Waters	Crown of thorn starfish	1. What resources are being dedicated to address the issue of crown of thorns starfish? 2. What advice can GBRMPA provide on why crown of thorns starfish are still a problem within the reef after 20 years?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
47	2.1: EQD	Ludlam	Issue of export permits for e-waste	<b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> Have we issued export permits for e-waste shipments to Ghana? <b>Dr Wright:</b> Not to my knowledge, no. <b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> Could you take that on notice and double-check for us? <b>Dr Wright:</b> Yes.	114 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
48	2.2: HPaC	Joyce	Building Better Regional Cities program	<b>Senator JOYCE:</b> I am reading a media release from the Hon. Tony Burke, who tells me that he has \$100 million to support our region: Supporting our regions to grow sustainably is key to a sustainable Australia. The Gillard Government is unlocking housing supply so that fly-in fly-out is no longer the only option in communities experiencing record levels of growth. Who is flying in to and flying out of Queanbeyan that we need to support? I see that Queanbeyan gets itself on the eligible regional city list, so I am interested: who is flying in to and flying out of Queanbeyan? While you are at it, you might want to tell me who is— <b>Senator Conroy:</b> That might be the nearest airport to somewhere. <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Who is flying in to and out of Wyong? Surfers? <b>Mr Thompson:</b> I can only answer that question by pointing to the government's decision around the basis for eligibility in the program, which was that 47 eligible regional cities were determined. <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> I see that—I have the whole list here. Who is flying in to and out of the Gold Coast? What is going on down there? Do we have a mine there? The Gold Coast is one of your eligible regional cities and the minister tells me this money is to help fly in, fly out workers. Who is flying in to and out of the Gold Coast? <b>Mr Thompson:</b> I am not sure how to address that question— <b>Senator Conroy:</b> We will take that on notice.	116 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
49	2.2: HPaC	Joyce	Building Better Regional Cities program	<b>Senator JOYCE:</b> .... Mr Thompson, can you enlarge on what is meant by the statement that the Gillard government is unlocking housing supplies so that fly-in fly-out is no longer the only option, and how does that relate to the cities you have picked? <b>Mr Thompson:</b> A number of the cities that are in this list which the government has decided to support through this program do relate to and experience some of the impacts on affordable housing through the mining and resources boom—	117 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> How many have you got there—47?</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Mr Thompson, have you finished your answer?</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> That is amongst the reasons why I presume the minister made that reference in the press release.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> I grant you that Kalgoorlie-Boulder is definitely one of those. In WA you have four towns. There is Mandurah—is that a mining town?</p> <p><b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> They are flying from there to the mining towns.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> That is a very good point. But this is not a flying from package; it is a fly-in fly-out package. We are stopping them from flying in and flying out. We want them to live there, so they are flying from Mandurah to where?</p> <p><b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> Port Hedland.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Port Hedland is not on the list. Did you ever consider putting Port Hedland on the list?</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy:</b> We can take that on notice and let you know.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> This is your second crack at this. You have done this once before, haven't you, during the election. We brought up the issue that the towns you picked to assist for fly-in fly-out were not actually there—you had left out the major mining towns. Why did you leave the major mining towns, the ones we want to target for fly-in fly-out, off your list?</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy:</b> We can take that on notice as to the composition of the list. I think the officer indicated there are criteria; perhaps you have not read it and we can get you a copy.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Senator Ludlam was trying to help you with an explanation of why you talk about flying in and flying out. Can you enlarge on that?</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy:</b> We will take it on notice and if there is anything further we can do other than give you a copy of the criteria, we will see if it is available</p>			
50	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Building Better Regional Cities – application process	<p><b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Do you have any estimate at this stage of the volume of applications being received now that the applications process is open?</p> <p><b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> Not at this stage. It is a bit too early to tell. But we did have a very good feedback from the 47 councils that are eligible to apply during the consultation process.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Could you take on notice a question to advise the committee of the number of applications received and the councils from which those applications have been received? How is the value of the applications assessed? Is it by the request of the councils for a dollar value or does the government put a dollar value on it?</p> <p><b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> Through the application process, we are asking the councils to state how much money they require and to go into quite some detail on the</p>	119 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				projects that are proposed. <b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Then the amount of money requested by each council. <b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> Yes.			
51	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Housing Affordability Fund - Electronic Development Assessment reforms	<b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Can you tell the committee what the current status of the Electronic Development Assessment reforms is—which councils have committed their eDA reforms and now have functional systems? <b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> I can. <b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Is it a large list? <b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> It is not a large list. I can give you a very quick summary. The National e-Planning Roadmap was completed on 30 June 2011. All jurisdictions were required to implement a protocol, known as the Electronic Development Assessment Interoperability Specification, which allows different IT systems to communicate data with each other based on a common technical requirement. Five jurisdictions are already compliant with the protocol and are currently using electronic development applications: Queensland, the Northern Territory, the Australian Capital Territory, South Australia and Victoria. Three jurisdictions that are expected to be conformant by June 2012 are New South Wales, WA and Tasmania. <b>Senator PAYNE:</b> What reporting systems or requirements are in place for states or local governments in relation to the reform and how it is working? <b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> I will have to take that on notice. <b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Thank you. ... <b>Senator PAYNE:</b> In relation to the table you provided, can you on notice provide further detail outlining which of the projects is in receipt of funding for infrastructure or eDA or another reason, and give a description of what the funding will go to? Can you also advise the committee, given the very large disparity between estimated savings per dwelling amongst the different projects, what the criteria were between competing proposals to provide such a diverse range of savings—what assessment process the department had in place for doing that? <b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> I am happy to take that on notice. <b>Senator PAYNE:</b> Thank you very much.	120 (17/10/11)	06/12/11 + 1 att't	09/02/12
52	2.2: HPaC	Ludlam	2008 Senate committee report on housing affordability	<b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> How many, if any, of the recommendations from the 2008 Senate committee report on housing affordability have been implemented? <b>Mr Thompson:</b> I will have to take that on notice, I am sorry. <b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> If you could. Could you let us know which ones? <b>Mr Thompson:</b> Sure.	121 (17/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12
53	2.2: HPaC	Payne	CSIRO Rockhampton Site	1. Has the CSIRO Rockhampton site yet been sold? a. This was a priority decision in the 2010 SEWPAC red book and is still set	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				for 2010-11 as a target time for release. What has been the cause of such extensive delays? 2. What were the disposal approach and sale conditions?			
54	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Commonwealth land for sale website	1. Is the website that outlines the available Commonwealth land for sale currently up to date? 2. Are the properties with target dates of 2011-12 on track?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
55	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Defence site disposals	1. In response to QoN48 from Budget estimates, you indicated that three of the Defence site disposals that have been agreed to, at Maribyrnong, North Penrith and Bushmead, had estimated capacity of, respectively, 2,800 dwellings, 1,100 dwellings and 640 dwellings. Have these sales all been finalised? 2. What are the expected timeframes for development of these dwellings? 3. Will they be all affordable accommodation or a mix of private and affordable?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
56	2.2: HPaC	Payne	CSIRO land at Bakers Hill	1. One of the largest open market sales you have identified is the CSIRO land at Bakers Hill, providing around 1,150ha of land, part of which is sold, part of which is to be transferred to the WA government, with one lot remaining for sale, yet to be settled. What is the current status of this sale? 2. Can you please provide more information on the nature of the land sold already, and that to be (or that has been) transferred to the WA government, including the number of dwellings expected?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
57	2.2: HPaC	Payne	NRAS round four application process	1. Can you please provide an update on the number of NRAS round 4 applications that are at each stage of processing, the number of incentives that have been allocated and the number of incentives remaining? 2. It has been around 10 months since these applications have been lodged, if there are still applications outstanding, is there a reason for such a delay? 3. Round four has clearly been oversubscribed, yet you have finalised a large number of applications while a large number of others are pending. How do you assess applications to ensure that quality applications do not miss out on incentives due to applications that are assessed earlier receiving the limited number?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
58	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Withdrawn dwellings under NRAS	1. How many dwellings that have been accepted under each round of NRAS funding have been withdrawn, and how many of dwellings have been subject to a request for an extension of time for completion? To your knowledge have there been any NRAS dwellings that will no longer go ahead due to the restrictive round 3 timeframes?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
59	2.2: HPaC	Payne	NRAS applications – communication of processing delays	1. You have indicated that NRAS applications should be assessed within six months. Your response to QoN 45 from Budget estimates indicated that there are 96 applications requesting 20,999 incentives in the final stages of decision making by the department (as at 6 July 2011). There were no doubt a number of	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				applications that did not meet this timeframe. While I sympathise with your overworked officers, do you have measures in place to clearly communicate delays to applicants, and what measures have you put into place to ensure these delays are minimised in the future?			
60	2.2: HPaC	Payne	NRAS incentives	1. The table you provided in your response to QoN174 has a breakdown of NRAS incentives by number of bedrooms across jurisdictions. There was remarkable discrepancy between jurisdictions, with Queensland favouring large dwellings while Victoria favoured small dwellings. Are you aware of reasons for this?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
61	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Jurisdictional influence over Government expenditure	1. If priorities are determined by the jurisdictions, does the Commonwealth have a say over how its money is spent with respect to priorities?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
62	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Rental affordability	1. A recent publication from AHURI (Australian Housing and Urban Research Institute) indicated that one fifth of privately renting Australians in the bottom quintile of income pay a severely unaffordable rent, while severe unaffordability is not a major concern for the second bottom quintile (though of course a level of unaffordability is still a serious problem). AHURI also said that very few families with two or more children access affordable housing; it is easier for those living alone or without children. Given AHURI's stated views that policymakers must ensure that national affordability schemes, such as NRAS, are targeted at those who most need it, do you believe NRAS should cater more towards dwellings with more bedrooms?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
63	2.2: HPaC	Payne	NRAS newsletter	1. Have you published a NRAS newsletter? When do you plan on publishing one? Given the importance that a program like NRAS is well publicised and information regularly provided to industry, do you have other ideas in mind to regularly update stakeholders on NRAS progress and changes?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
64	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Staffing of the division	1. Can you please outline the number of staff, indicating the APS level and location, your department has engaged directly on matters falling under the housing outcome and, if possible, the number of full time equivalent positions engaged indirectly on housing matters?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
65	2.2: HPaC	Payne	Overall expenditure of the division	1. Can you please outline the overall expenditure, departmental and administered, and broken down by activity (for example engagement of staff, travel, accommodation, legal etc) by your department and any portfolio agencies on housing matters?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
66	2.3: HPaC	Joyce	Suburban Jobs program	<b>Senator JOYCE:</b> How many stakeholders have you spoken to? <b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> I have a list of stakeholders that I can take you through. It would probably be about 40 or 50 different stakeholders, but I can take that on notice and confirm the list. <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Where do the stakeholders come from? How did you find	123-124 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>them?</p> <p><b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> They range from state government representatives and agencies in the planning area and also in transport and employment, as well as local government agencies, academics, business groups and community organisations.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> How many non-government stakeholders did you speak to? (Page 124)</p> <p><b>Ms Wiley-Smith:</b> Based on the information I have seen, I would say about 10 to 15 different groups, but I would have take that on notice to confirm.</p>			
67	2.3: PCD	Ludlam	Sustainability Indicators	<p><b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> In two and a half minutes. It is the sustainability indicators. We had a reasonably lengthy discussion on that last time. Can you give us an update on that one?</p> <p><b>Mr Thompson:</b> There have been quite extensive but targeted consultations with a range of stakeholders around the country who are already engaged in different types of sustainability indicator work, which Mr McNee could add to if necessary. We are continuing work on potential indicators to put to government for its consideration before the end of this year.</p> <p><b>Mr McNee:</b> We have been dealing with a wide range of stakeholders. In fact I can probably come back to you with a full list—across state and territory governments, social groups, local government, academics, major associations.</p> <p><b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> Do you want to provide us with that list on notice?</p> <p><b>Mr McNee:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator LUDLAM:</b> That would be good.</p>	125 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
68	3.1: AAD	Birmingham	Issue of permits for Australian waters	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Would there be a circumstance at all where Australia would consider not issuing a permit to an aforementioned vessel on the basis of concerns about maritime safety?</p> <p><b>Ms Schweizer:</b> The delegation for the issuing of those permits sits with the Antarctic Division, but they are required to follow the provisions under the act which have a set of criteria that are based primarily upon potential environmental impacts. If you would like more detail on that I would have to take it on notice or perhaps you could ask the Antarctic Division.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Perhaps you could take it on notice. I am not sure whether we indicated we had questions on notice for the Antarctic Division this time but maybe we will sneak them through anyway.</p>	111 (17/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
69	3.1: AAD	Siewert	Cetacean Data	<p>1. How much has been spent by Commonwealth Government on cetacean research in the last 5 years, broken down by year, by marine bioregion (if possible) and by species (if possible)?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
70	3.1: AAD	Siewert	Krill harvesting	<p>1. Does Australia issue any licences to harvest krill?</p> <p>2. Is there a sustainable harvest plan for krill?</p> <p>3. How does Australia influence krill harvesting undertaken by other</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				countries? Through which mechanisms or agreements? 4. Can you provide a short summary about the current krill population levels and the impact that harvesting has had upon those populations? 5. Can you provide a short summary of the measures used to establish changes to the krill population and Australia's work in monitoring those changes? 6. What are the major threats to the krill population? 7. What work is being undertaken to ensure a stable krill population? Please specific programs undertaken by the Australian Government and programs undertaken internationally to which Australia contributes.			
71	4.1: WED	Xenophon	PIIPSA funding	<b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> What was anticipated at the time the project commenced for the amounts that would be spent and in what period? Can you take that on notice, in terms of any documents, any material, as to what was anticipated for the \$110 million fund? <b>Ms Harwood:</b> Yes.	40 (18/10/11)	16/12/11 + 2 att'ts	09/02/12
72	4.1: WED	Xenophon	Differences in efficiency across the Basin	<b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> Is the department able to say which parts of the basin are more efficient than others? On an empirical basis they are able to state that, are they not? <b>Mr Parker:</b> We could take that specific question on notice. <b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> If you could—in efficiency measures that have been implemented, issues of productivity and the like in terms of water evaporation or water wastage through inefficient techniques. <b>Mr Parker:</b> Certainly. We will do what we can to provide that factual information.	40 (18/10/11)	03/01/12	09/02/12
73	4.1: WED	Xenophon	Irrigation assessment	<b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> I only have a couple more minutes, so I will ask: can you take on notice what assessments are being undertaken in terms of the efficiency—Mr Parker made reference to that—in terms of which areas have a pipe delivery system, a more efficient delivery system than others? My observation is that in the Riverland, at the very least, that has been one significant area where there has been some homogeneity in issues of having a pipe system, where it delivered efficiencies across the board in that area.	41 (18/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12
74	4.1: WED	Joyce	On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program	<b>Ms Harwood:</b> Some of the other delivery partners in their consortium have had entities in their consortium that are suppliers of equipment, but the delivery partners themselves are not suppliers. <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Who were they? <b>Ms Harwood:</b> From memory, at least one is Murray Irrigation, but I would need to check that and give you a correct answer. <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Were there others? <b>Ms Harwood:</b> I will take that on notice just to be sure. <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> There might have been more than one.	48 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<b>Ms Harwood:</b> Yes, possibly.			
75	4.1: WED	Joyce	Application process for the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program	<p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> In the assessment process for assessing the applicants under the program in round 2, there was an assessment panel that included expertise relating to financial matters but also the use of an external financial and auditing expert. In the view of the external financial and auditing expert, IEP met the eligibility criteria as they demonstrated financial viability through the documents that they provided and that they could be reasonably expected to provide.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> What documents did they provide?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I would have to take that on notice in terms of the detailed documents that they provided with their applications.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> You managed to get all that information in 10 days from a new organisation.</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> The organisation submitted sufficient documentation to satisfy the financial and auditing experts.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> You just said 'sufficient documentation'. What is it? What is sufficient documentation?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> As I said, the precise documentation I will take on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> How did you come up with the statement that they provided sufficient documentation?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> That is the case. You have asked me for the specific documentation.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> But how do you know? I have asked you what it is and you cannot provide it for me.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> You have asked me for the precise documents that IEP provided.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Any form of documentation at all.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> We can provide you with a description of the documentation provided by IEP.</p>	49 (18/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12
76	4.1: WED	Joyce	External auditing panel for the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program	<p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Who was that external auditing panel or auditor?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I will get the name for you. I have two sources of advice on this matter: one is a financial adviser called Ian Brooks, an expert, and the other is the firm KPMG.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Where is Ian Brooks from?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> He is from Brisbane, I understand.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Who does he work for?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> We will get you the company name and provide that on notice. I do not have that documentation with me, I am sorry.</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy:</b> You said you would take that on notice.</p>	50 (18/10/11)	21/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Would you be able to table the document also from KPMG?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> We will get you the description of the financial assessment and the stuff that was provided by both Ian Brooks and KPMG.</p>			
77	4.1: WED	Joyce and Birmingham	Communication between the department and Irrigation Efficiency Partners	<p>(Page 50)</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Did the department have any correspondence with IEP after the closing date but before the projects were announced?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I would have to confer. I do not believe so but we will take that on notice in terms of whether they made any follow-up or whatever. They would have submitted an application which was then assessed and the results of the assessments announced. That is the process.</p> <p>(Page 52)</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> One final question, perhaps, to Ms Harwood on the matter Senator Joyce was pursuing. Did the department have any correspondence after the closing date with the parties involved but before the announcement of funding?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I think that is the same question that Senator Joyce asked and I will take it on notice. I do not believe so, but I will take it on notice and confirm. This is whether there was any written correspondence between the department and IEP after the closing date—</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Or any communication at all.</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> Any communication at all?</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> It can be in a form other than written correspondence.</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I will ascertain that and get back to you.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> There was no communication between you and the party involved?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> Not me personally, no.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> So you can take it on notice with regard to other departmental officials.</p>	50 and 52 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
78	4.1: WED	Joyce	Grant provided to Irrigation Efficiency Partners	<p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> It does not actually go into the river, though. You have not answered the final question. How much water is being offered to the Commonwealth for the \$32 million of taxpayers' funds—that they managed to get their hands on without three years of audited financial statements? I wish I could get that. I wish I could get my hands on \$32 million in 10 days.</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I can get you the precise value proposition which was the basis for the in-principle approval of their funding. But it is a key component of the assessment of projects and they provided a water return at a good value proposition, which is why they were granted the equivalent figure.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> How much water is being offered to the Commonwealth?</p> <p><b>Ms Harwood:</b> I am sorry, I just do not have that figure with me.</p>	51 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<b>Senator Conroy:</b> We can take that on notice.			
79	4.1: WED	Birmingham	Eligibility under the irrigators exit program	1. Has the Department had complaints from farmers that sold their farms and were eligible under the exit grant program for funding but have missed out as the funding ran out? Has there been any consideration of extending funding to meet grant payments in such circumstances?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
80	4.1: WED	Birmingham	Water buybacks	1. Are water buybacks operating with any reference to the Basin plan process or do they continue to be haphazard? How does the Guide to the Proposed Basin Plan inform buybacks? 2. When was the latest round of buybacks planned? 3. What was stopping this round being delayed in light of the delay to the proposed Basin Plan? 4. How much has been spent on water buybacks to date since 2007? 5. How much does the Government expect to expend on water buy backs still? Please provide breakdowns of planned expenditure in each year and the size of entitlements expected to be acquired. 6. Please provide a table outlining for each catchment the volume of water recovered from each buyback round and the average cost per mega litre of this water since 2007.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
81	4.1: WED	Birmingham	Water infrastructure	1. What volume of water entitlements has been secured to date via infrastructure projects? 2. What is the volume of water entitlements expected to be secured from projects approved but not yet completed? 3. What volume of water entitlements is expected to be secured from as yet unallocated funds? 4. What is the average cost per megalitre of water entitlements secured under the on farm program compared to the off farm program? 5. Please provide a table outlining for each catchment the volume of water recovered from each infrastructure program, the proportion of such water being returned to the environment, the cost per mega litre of this water since 2007. 6. How much has been spent on water-saving infrastructure to date since 2007? 7. How much does the Government expect to expend on water-saving infrastructure still? Please provide breakdowns of planned expenditure in each year and the size of entitlements expected to be acquired.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
82	4.1: WED	Birmingham	Menindee Lakes	1. Please provide an update on the status of negotiation between the Government and the NSW Government over the Menindee Lakes project? What progress is being made?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
83	4.1: WED	Birmingham	Orange to Macquarie River pipeline	1. Has funding been provided for the Orange pipeline? 2. How much has been paid? 3. When will other payments be made?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				4. How much water does this project save? 5. How much water will be provided to the Commonwealth for the purposes of environmental allocations?			
84	4.1: WED	Hanson-Young	Swiss-cheese effect on the water buyback program	1. Has the Department undertaken any assessments of the so called "swiss cheese" effect of the water buyback program? 2. What did these assessments find? Can we obtain copies of these assessments? 3. What measures does SEWPAC have in place to optimise the regional benefits of water buyback, avoid any "swiss cheese effect"?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
85	4.1: WED	Hanson-Young	Assessments from the water buyback program	1. Has the Department undertaken any assessments of regional economic and environmental benefits from the water buyback program? Can I obtain copies of these assessments?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
86	4.1: WED	Hanson-Young	Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program	1. Has the Department completed cost-benefit assessments of irrigation infrastructure proposals funded under the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure program? Do these assessments include both gross and net benefits? Can I obtain copies of these assessments? 2. Has the Department assessed if the irrigation infrastructure operators who have submitted funding proposals under Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program: a. Are economically viable? b. Have set user charges at a level sufficient to recover the full costs of operating and maintaining infrastructure works funded under the Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure Program? c. Can I obtain copies of these funding proposals and the Departments assessments of them?	Written	03/01/12	09/02/12
87	4.1: WED	Joyce	Water buyback program	1. Is the Department considering any ways of making buybacks more strategic? If so, what are they and have these ideas been discussed with stakeholders? Is the Department close to announcing a change in the guidelines of its buyback program?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
88	4.1: WED	Joyce	Sub-system retirement	1. Does the department have any plans for a new program at sub-system retirement? If so, what are those plans?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
89	4.1: WED	Joyce	Program expenditure	1. Can the Department please provide a list of expenditure under each of the following programs for all financial years beginning 2007-08, and include the most up to date spending for the current financial year. Can the Department also provide forecast or projected for these programs over the forward estimates? a. Restoring the Balance b. Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
90	4.1: WED	Joyce	Release of draft Basin Plan -	1. In the advice the Department gave to the Minister after the election it proposed to announce a refined "purchase plan" as soon as the Guide is	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
			refined 'purchase plan'	released. Was that purchase plan released?			
91	4.1: WGD	Xenophon	South Australian desalination plant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Under the current agreement with the South Australian Government, the Federal Government will contribute an additional \$228 million to expand the South Australian desal plant to a 100 gigalitre capacity, is that correct?</li> <li>2. In early August this year, the Adelaide Advertiser reported that there had been a "year long stand-off" over the wording in the deal – where the South Australian Government said that the expansion would "reduce our reliance" on the River Murray, which they meant as not taking any further allocations in the future, not actually reducing the amount taken now. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Is it correct that the current agreement uses the South Australian Government's interpretation of this phrase, and does not require them to make any cuts in allocation?</li> <li>b. Are there any exceptions in this agreement, for example if there is a sudden increase in demand, for some reason?</li> <li>c. What scientific data was the agreement that 100 gigalitres would mean SA never has to increase its allocation based on?</li> <li>d. Did the Government undertake a review of this data?</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Did the Federal Government obtain any undertakings on price increases for household consumers of water?</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
92	4.1: WGD	Birmingham	Commonwealth Environmental Water holdings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Is the CEWH aware of criticisms on the way that it uses its water holdings?</li> <li>2. What is being done with the water currently held?</li> <li>3. What was the total allocation against entitlements for CEWH licences in 2010/11. Were all allocations used for environmental water activities for 2010/11? For what purposes? Please provide details for each allocation.</li> <li>4. What is the expected size of holdings by the end of 2011-12 (entitlement and allocation)?</li> <li>5. How/where have allocations been used to date this year? Please provide details of each usage.</li> <li>6. What volumes have been allocated for environmental water activities for the remainder of the year? Please provide details of each planned environmental water usage.</li> <li>7. How will the NWC's report on the Framework for the assessment of river and wetland health be used in relation to the use of environmental water holdings, or for that matter by the MDBA in development of the basin plan?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
93	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Commonwealth watering action in the Murrumbidgee	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I refer to the Minister's media release on the 10 June 2011 in which he stated that the Commonwealth would deliver 150 gigalitres to the Murrumbidgee wetlands. How much water per day were you planning to deliver in this event? How much water was delivered per day?</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
			Wetlands	<p>2. Was any additional, inadvertent flooding caused by the watering of the Murrumbidgee wetlands in June or July this year? If so what were the details of this flooding, why did this occur and what steps are you taking to prevent it from happening again?</p> <p>3. Has the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder received any complaints over the past year in regards to its watering of wetlands in the Murrumbidgee catchment? If so what were the nature of these complaints?</p> <p>4. Has any private land been flooded or been linked to the actions of the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder in the Murrumbidgee catchment over the past year?</p> <p>5. Is the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder aware of any bridges being inundated over the past year during or associated with its watering program?</p>			
94	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Commonwealth Environmental Water – flood events	1. Has the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder or any of the state bodies who undertake the watering on its behalf been made aware of flooding of any bridge associated with its watering activities?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
95	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Commonwealth watering action in the Gwydir wetlands	<p>1. Has the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder received any complaints over the past year in regards to its watering of wetlands in the Gwydir catchment? If so what were the nature of these complaints?</p> <p>2. Does the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder know of anyone who has linked watering in the Gwydir to the catchment of private wheat crops? If so what were the nature of these complaints? What is the status of these complaints, has any mediation been entered into?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
96	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder – legal liability	1. What is the Commonwealth's legal liability in relation to any flooding of private property in relation to its environmental watering activities? Does liability rest with the Commonwealth or with State governments?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
97	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder - administration	<p>1. How many staff does the Commonwealth Environmental Water holder employ at the moment?</p> <p>2. How much does the Commonwealth Environmental Water holding cost? Please include all staffing, administrative and other costs associated with managing the Commonwealth's water.</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
98	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Adelaide Desalination Plant	1. When will the government complete payments to the South Australian government for the Adelaide Desalination project? Have payments under this program been held up for any reason? If so, why? Have any milestones been missed? If so, which ones?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
99	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Water program expenditure	1. Can the Department please provide a list of expenditure under each of the following programs for all financial years beginning 2007-08, and include the most up to date spending for the current financial year. Can the Department	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				also provide forecast or projected for these programs over the forward estimates? a. National Water Security Plan for Cities and Towns b. National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative c. Green Precincts Fund			
100	4.1: WGD	Joyce	Commonwealth Environmental Water Holdings	1. For the Commonwealth's environmental water holdings, could you please list the amount of water allocated, the carryover water and the amount of water delivered for each of the years 2008-09, 2009-10, 2010-11 and 2011-12 (year to date)?	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
101	4.1: WRD	Birmingham	Water for the Future advertising campaign	1. In reference to answer 84 from 2011 budget estimates in which the Department stated the \$8.5 million water for the future advertising campaign was a three phase advertising campaign, please outline those phases and breakdown costs. Please detail what, if any, future communications spending is to be undertaken on water policy matters.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
102	4.1: WRD	Birmingham	Water for the Future program review	1. Please provide an update on the Water for the Future program review.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
103	4.1: WRD	Birmingham	Windsor report and Joyce	1. Will the Government be responding to the Windsor report? When is such a response to be expected? What involvement has the department had in preparing any response?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
104	4.1: WRD	Hanson-Young	Snowy Water Inquiry Outcomes Implementation Deed	1. Why have the releases outlined under the Schedule of Releases over the Snowy Montane Aqueducts not been made? 2010 Spring was a 'wet year' and so is 2011 Spring. Can the Department advise whether the Snowy Water Inquiry Outcomes Implementation Deed (SWIOID) is being observed properly and if not why not?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
105	4.1: WRD	Hanson-Young	Upper Snowy River	1. Has the Minister or any of his parliamentary colleagues visited the Upper Snowy River and if not why not?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
106	4.1: WRD	Hanson-Young	Snowy River water release and flow	1. This year the Snowy River below Jindabyne Dam wall will enjoy the biggest water release and flow in decades. Is it not possible to build connectivity into the Snowy River and its tributaries by enabling 'spills' over Guthega Dam Wall and Island Bend Dam wall and ensure that the scheduled releases over the Snowy aqueducts commence now. If not why not?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
107	4.1: WRD	Joyce	High-level review of Water for the Future	1. In the advice the Department gave to the Minister after the election the Department mentioned that a high-level review of Water for the Future programs is occurring. Has this review completed? 2. What were its findings? 3. Have any changes occurred as the result of this review?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
108	4.1: WRD	Birmingham	Future of the National Water Commission	1. When will Dr David Rosalky's review of the NWC be finalised? Will his review be publicly released? 2. Considering the 30 June 2012 expiration of the current NWC function,	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				when will COAG discuss the future of the NWC? Does the NWC expect it will have a role into the future? What contingencies are being developed should COAG not agree on the future role for the NWC?			
109	4: MDBA	Joyce	Extraction of water by Coal Seam Gas industry	<p>(Page 32)</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> So, with the explosion of coal seam gas, you have got a really good handle now on how much water they are going to take?</p> <p>(Page 33)</p> <p><b>Dr MacLeod:</b> There are very active discussions ongoing with state governments, particularly New South Wales and Queensland, to understand the extent of the proposals that are currently in development, and that is one of the issues that we have been exploring with states over recent months. We have put forward proposals for SDLs for those groundwater areas and we have been discussing those with the states as well. We believe that the current thinking of the authority represents a reasonable balance between long-term sustainability—</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> I do not know what that means—a reasonable balance? So tell me how much water they are going to take out of the aquifer, seeing as we have had this discussion? I just want to know what amount is now thought of as a reasonable balance. In your mind, how much is coal seam gas going to take out of the aquifers?</p> <p><b>Dr MacLeod:</b> I do not have the numbers with me to hand. We have put forward proposals for sustainable diversion limits for all of the aquifers that are within part of the area of the authority—bearing in mind that the Great Artesian Basin is not one of the Basin water resources. So we have an authority do not have any—</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> What about the Condamine alluvium? That is part.</p> <p><b>Dr MacLeod:</b> Again, from memory—and I do not have these numbers specifically to hand—I believe that the current proposals that Dr Dickson has indicated have been discussed with stakeholders and state governments indicate that the proposal for the Upper Condamine alluvium is to reduce the extractive limits, in line with the proposals that were being discussed with the Queensland government.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> I do not see how you can arrive at a comfortable balance when we do not actually know how much they are taking out.</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> Senator, we can provide the information that we have provided to all of the stakeholders that I mentioned before. We can make that available to you now on the basis that it is just our current thinking.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> If we could have it now, that would be great.</p> <p>(Page 34)</p>	32-34 (18/10/11)	21/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> We might have to get it for you on notice. I do not think we have it available today.</p> <p><b>Dr MacLeod:</b> I do not think we have it here right now.</p>			
110	4: MDBA	Joyce	Great Artesian Basin	<p><b>Dr MacLeod:</b> the Great Artesian Basin is excluded from the basin water resources for the purpose of the basin plan.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Obviously a huge section of the Great Artesian Basin is covered by the Murray-Darling Basin. It is just self-evident that that water is going to go into the Great Artesian Basin. We cannot dance around that one, for goodness sake, can we?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> We are restricted in our purview by what is required in the act. If you want any further information on the Great Artesian Basin—</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> You are not allowed to talk about the Great Artesian Basin?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> It is just not within our assessment—</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Would you like it to be in your purview?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> given that the Water Act has excluded it. If you wish to seek more information on the Great Artesian Basin, we will see what we can find and provide it to you on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Do you acknowledge that a large section of the Great Artesian Basin as a resource is in the same area as the Murray-Darling Basin?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> My point is that the assessment that we are doing as defined under the Water Act does exclude those resources, but if you are seeking information on that we can look to see what is available and provide it to you.</p>	35 (18/10/11)	21/12/11	09/02/12
111	4: MDBA	Joyce	Basin Plan – consultation process post release	<p><i>(Page 38)</i></p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> What would be the process for consultation after the release of the Basin Plan?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> The next five months after we release the proposal we will be using a whole range of fora to make stakeholders aware of the information.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> So you would go around the country doing that?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> We will probably be talking very much to the same groups we are already consulting with and make opportunities available to the broader community, depending on the particular way each community would like to be consulted. We have spent quite a lot of time over the last few months talking to communities across the basin to identify how they best want to be consulted. Some communities prefer smaller meetings and some want larger. So there is a whole range of different ways that we are trying to meet community needs.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Seeing how they want to be consulted, how do the people of Deniliquin want to be consulted?</p> <p><i>(Page 39)</i></p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I will have to take that one on notice, because most recently the chairman was in Deniliquin talking to them about how they would like to be</p>	38-39 (18/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>consulted.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> How about the people of St George or Goondiwindi? Tell me how they would like to be consulted.</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> Can I take those specific questions on notice? I do not have the details with me.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> What about the people of Mildura? How do they want to be consulted?</p> <p><b>CHAIR:</b> Senator Joyce, you are asking the same question, and I expect you will get the same answer.</p>			
112	4: MDBA	Xenophon	Water efficiency measures	<p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> ...If it can be shown that a previous catchment has undertaken water efficiency measures well before the \$5.8 billion was established, to what extent, on an equity basis, is that taken into account? When I raised this with Mr Freeman back on 25 May, as I understand it, the guide at page 214 specified that about 500 gegalitres could be sourced anywhere in the basin in terms of any savings. Could that 500 gegalitres form the basis of an equity dividend, if you like, for those irrigators and for those communities that have done the right thing previously?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> If you are referring to the savings that need to be required in the downstream component—</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> it is really a matter of where the market is going to be most able to achieve savings there, rather than specifying any particular group. We do not want to constrain the capacity of individuals for that recovery in that way. So I think the answer to your question might be no.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> Sure. I might invite you to take this on notice further.</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I think that might be a good idea.</p>	39 (18/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12
113	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Basin Plan delay	<p>(Page 42)</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Dr Dickson, congratulations on your appointment and welcome to your first estimates hearing in this role. The MDBA minutes on 19 April 2011 state that the chair, Mr Knowles, reported that the tabling of the House of Representatives committee inquiry report into the impact of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan in regional Australia (the Windsor report) might be delayed, and suggested that if it was delayed the authority could not delay the release of its proposed Basin Plan. That was on the 19 April. At that point, the release of the proposed Basin Plan was publicly expected around July. Why could the release not be delayed in April when it was scheduled in July but can now be delayed until at least mid-November?</p> <p>(Page 43)</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I was not at the meeting. I will take that on notice and give you a response.</p>	42-43 (18/10/11)	06/12/11 + 2 att's	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
114	4: MDBA	Joyce	Basin Plan – in-catchment reductions	<p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> You said a second ago that the Goulburn cuts were based on the sustainable take for the Goulburn. Does this mean that you did not take into account the socio-economic circumstances of it?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> As I said, they were based on the Northern Region Sustainable Water Strategy.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Does that take into account socio-economic circumstances?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I will have to take that on notice. It is the basis on which Victoria developed their strategy. I will take that on notice and provide you advice on Victoria's process.</p>	44-45 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
115	4: MDBA	Joyce	Basin Plan – consultation process post release	<p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Will the minister be attending the consultations after the draft plan is released?</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy:</b> I am not sure the officers would actually know the answer so I will take that on notice.</p>	46 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
116	4: MDBA	Joyce	Extraction of water by the Coal Seam Gas industry	<p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> As was mentioned before, when we were discussing some of the other aquifers, most of these are exercised through state legislation. So it would be a matter of whether it is legal or not under the state legislation, which I suspect—</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Does the Murray-Darling Basin cover the extraction of water by coal seam gas operators and the amounts they extract?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I think we covered that question before by saying it covers the extraction of all water that is covered by the resources of the Murray-Darling Basin.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> So how much does coal seam gas extract?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I do not have the answer to that question.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Can you take it on notice?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator Conroy:</b> To see if there is any information we can provide for you.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Is there anything prohibiting you from getting that information? Do you think that information is accessible—to the extent that mining licences have been granted at the moment?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> We will explore that and get you the answer. (Page 47)</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Do you think there is something rather strange about the fact that such a substantial extraction of water is not actually within your purview?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> The extraction of any water within the basin, as described, is covered by the SDLs we are developing for ground water.</p> <p><b>Senator JOYCE:</b> You acknowledged, just through the questions I have asked, that there is rather a paucity of information about anything to do with coal seam gas and yet it is one of the largest extractors of water in the northern part of the basin.</p>	46-47 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<b>Dr Dickson:</b> I will get that information for you, Senator.			
117	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Basin Plan – review in 2015	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> ...I turn to the statement by the chair of the MDBA of 15 September 2011. In that statement the chair talks about there being a further three to four years of analysis and the basin plan then being reviewed in 2015. When did the MDBA make the decision to have this two-stage approach to the basin plan?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> I think I would have to take the exact date on notice. In fact, I think it was part of a developing discussion over a number of weeks, probably around July-August. We had been discussing for some time with the states the idea of how you would manage the transition period and look at potential changes to the SDLs as new information came to light. As a result of those discussions, for practical reasons it seemed that the midway point, about 2015, would be the most appropriate. I think it was around that time that the authority made that decision. If you would like a little more detail, I can take on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Thanks.</p>	52 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
118	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Basin Plan – commissioning of additional advice	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> What prompted that review?</p> <p><b>Dr Dickson:</b> We have undertaken reviews all along the way. I think there were three reviews last year of just this particular method. I will have to get you the details on that. We have undertaken a number of reviews in the past of the method. This is just part of our ongoing process of making sure we get good scientific exposure to the methods that we are using.</p>	54 (18/10/11)	16/12/11	09/02/12
119	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA Staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Within The Murray-Darling Basin Authority, how many divisions are there and what are their names?</li> <li>2. How many staff are there in each of these divisions?</li> <li>3. Where is each division located and what are their staffing numbers?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
120	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA Accommodation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many office locations are there within The MDBA and where is each located?</li> <li>2. What is the size of each of these offices and are they leased or owned?</li> <li>3. If the office is rented, what is the amount and what is the breakdown of rent per square metre?</li> <li>4. What is the value of the buildings owned and what is the depreciation of those buildings?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
121	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA Expenditure	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Provide details on expenditure for 2010-11 for The Murray-Darling Basin Authority on the following: advertising, travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international), hospitality and entertainment, ICT, consultancy, education/training of staff, external accounting, external auditing, external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations?</li> <li>2. Provide a further breakdown of the above expenditure for each division with the Murray-Darling Basin Authority: advertising (\$mn), travel (including</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11 + 1 att't	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)? 3. Within each divisional area, provide a further breakdown of expenditure under each Executive Manager: advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)? 4. Please provide a breakdown over the forward estimates of each program or activity including: program title, program summary, is the program ongoing, lapsing, or terminating , breakdown of administered and departmental costs, program staffing numbers and location?			
122	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Grants approved by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority	1. In reference to the list of grants approved by the MDBA which was tabled in the Senate on 24 June 2011, one of the items on the list, under the Natural Resources Management division, was to the University of Melbourne for program name 'How effective are environmental flows' to the value of \$99,000. Please provide details on the status of this project. Was it to provide a report? Has such a report been provided? If so, please provide a copy.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
123	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Basin Plan delay	1. When will the proposed basin plan be released? 2. When is the final basin plan expected to be released? 3. What is the forward timing schedule from now until the release of the basin plan?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
124	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Social and Economic References Committee	1. I refer to the minutes of the Authority's meeting 29 of 1 March 2011. Agenda item 3, point 8, states that the Chair requested the Chief Executive write to inform people who had been approach in regards to the establishment of a Social and Economic references committee to inform them that such a committee would not be formed. Who was approached? How were they used at earlier or later stages of the consultation process? Why was the committee idea discontinued? 2. Please provide copies of the minutes of the Authorities meetings since 1 March 2011.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
125	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Basin Testing Committee – Mr Thomas Perry	1. Why did Mr Thomas Perry cease his involvement with the Proposed Basin Plan testing committee? 2. Has he been replaced?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
126	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Carp in the Murray-Darling Basin?	1. What action is being taken in light of the explosion of carp numbers in the Basin?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
			Basin	2. Is the MDBA actively monitoring carp numbers?			
127	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Lake Mulwala weeds	1. Earlier this year the lake was lowered to kill off the weed egeria densa. Is there any impact downstream or risk of the weed spreading due to the release? 2. How prevalent is the weed elsewhere? 3. Is there a more permanent solution or is the lake to be lowered every year?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
128	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA – Travel costs	For financial year 2010-11: 1. How many Murray-Darling Basin Authority staff travelled overseas? Please detail by staff member, including their name and position and their total travel expenses. How many staff travelled first class? How many staff travelled business class? 2. What was the total cost of overseas travel for Murray-Darling Basin Authority? Please include a list of all international travel itemised by trip, detailing the number of Murray-Darling Basin Authority staff involved and the cost of each trip including the total amounts spent on accommodation and meals, cities or other destinations visited, the purpose of the travel and any specific outcomes achieved. 3. What was the total amount spent by Murray-Darling Basin Authority on overseas accommodation and meals? 4. How many staff travelled interstate? 5. What was the total accommodation and meals bill for staff travelling interstate over the past year? 6. How many future overseas trips is Murray-Darling Basin Authority currently planning?	Written	16/12/11 + 1 att't	09/02/12
129	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA - Training	1. Please detail all staff training programs for which Murray-Darling Basin Authority paid in financial year 2010-11, including costs, numbers of participants, the title of each training program and the name of each training provider.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
130	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA - Advertising	1. Please detail all advertising expenditure in financial year 2010-11 by campaign, including the campaign's purpose, total cost (including campaign research and design) and media (i.e. print, radio, TV etc) involved. In each case, if the campaign was part of a broader strategy, what other communications activities were undertaken and at what cost? Please provide a similar breakdown on budgeted future spending.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
131	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA - External fees/consultatns	1. For both calendar year 2011 to date and financial year 2010-11, please provide a breakdown by category (e.g. legal advice) of total costs paid to external consultants. For all payments in excess of \$10,000, please itemise and detail the name of the consultant, work undertaken and the total payments made to the consultant.	Written	16/12/11 + 1 att't	09/02/12
132	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA - Conferences	1. Please detail any overseas international conferences partly or fully funded by the Murray-Darling Basin Authority in financial year 2010-11.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				For each conference fully funded please identify: (a) the venue; (b) the reason for each conference; (c) the number of registered participants; (d) whether consultancy fees were paid for organisation of the conference; (e) to whom were any consultancy fees paid; and (f) the cost of each consultancy?			
133	4: MDBA	Birmingham	MDBA - Freedom of Information	1. For both calendar year 2011 to date and financial year 2010-11, how many Freedom of Information applications have been received? Please provide breakdowns of the numbers of applications granted in full, granted in part, refused, withdrawn and still being processed. For those withdrawn, please provide a further breakdown indicating whether the application was withdrawn before or after the applicant was notified of estimated costs.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
134	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Proposed Basin Plan	1. Please provide the figures and documents being shown at different meetings purported to be the SDL figures in the proposed Basin Plan. 2. How many groups or meetings have these figures been shown to? When was the first time these figures were provided to a stakeholder group or meeting? Please provide details of all instances these figures were provided to a group/meeting. 3. What discussions has the MDBA had with the state governments since first briefing them on the proposed Basin Plan? 4. How many times has Mr Knowles met with representatives of each of the Basin state governments since July 2011? 5. Have any working groups been established with state Governments to look at particular issues arising from the proposed Basin Plan? 6. Have state governments requested any changes or any further work on any aspects of the proposed basin plan? 7. How many people have been shown the proposed Basin Plan? Please provide details of who has been shown the proposed Basin Plan.	Written	16/12/11 + 3 att's	09/02/12
135	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Environmental watering needs of the Basin	1. The Authority is using hydrological indicator site methodology to estimate the environmental watering needs of the Basin's key environmental assets and ecological functions. What evidence has the Authority obtained to validate the assumption that the broader environmental watering needs of the Basin are represented by the indicator sites?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
136	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Delivering environmental flows	1. Has the Authority modeled the environmentally sustainable level of take prior to factoring in the impact of system constraints on the feasibility of delivering environmental flows?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
137	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	System constraints in the Basin	1. Please provide a complete list of the system constraints that were factored into the Authority's modeling and the hydrological impacts and ecological consequences of each constraint.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				2. Has the Authority investigated how these system constraints could be overcome to improve the environmental outcomes of the Basin Plan?			
138	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	CSIRO review of "Ecologically Sustainable Level of Take" method for the Basin Plan	1. The Authority has commissioned CSIRO to lead a Review of its "Ecologically Sustainable Level of Take" Method for the Basin Plan. A draft review report was presented to the Authority earlier in the year. What were the findings in the draft and how have they been incorporated in the Authority's development of a Draft Basin Plan since then?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
139	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Sustainable diversion limits	<p>1. How has the Authority's methodology for calculating groundwater SDLs changed since the Guide, and how has this impacted on the SDL volumes to be proposed in the Draft Basin Plan?</p> <p>2. Is the Authority confident that the SDL scenario of returning an additional 2,800GL to the environment will meet the requirements of the Water Act 2007, particularly in relation to the key environmental assets of the Lower Murray floodplain?</p> <p>3. When did the Murray Darling Basin Authority begin modelling a 2800 gegalitre sustainable diversion limit? Does this volume of water provide low, medium or high levels of protection to the basins key environmental assets – like the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Chowilla?</p> <p>4. Has the MDBA assessed the impacts of a 2800 GL sustainable diversion limit on the water quality of the Murray in South Australia? Can I obtain copies of these assessments?</p> <p>5. Why is the MDBA not modelling a sustainable diversion limit of 4000 GL? Are there any constraints on the MDBA being able to model this figure before the final MDB Plan is completed?</p> <p>6. Can the Authority clearly outline who will be benefit from the modelling based on 2800? At this stage can you outline the benefits and the risks?</p> <p>7. The authority is apparently now using groundwater SDL figures which represent an increase in extraction in the vicinity of 800GL/year. This compared with a much more minor growth that was proposed in the Guide. What is the rationale behind this?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
140	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Establishment of the environmental water plan	1. Did the Authority use 'best available science' (as required in the Water Act) in establishing the environmental watering plan, the water quality and salinity management plan and the SDLs? Where is the evidence of that? Was the exact methodology peer reviewed? What about 2,800 GL being proposed? Where is the peer review of that?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
141	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Goyder report	1. Why is it that peer reviewed, published, recent work like the Goyder Report says it will need 4,000 GL to properly export salt from the Basin and protect the ecological assets at Chowilla and the Coorong, Lower Lakes and Murray Mouth and yet the MDBA is proposing that 2,800 GL will be adequate? Why are these numbers so different?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
142	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Modelling increments	1. Why did the MDBA choose to model 2400 and 3200 GL in 400 gegalitre increments? Why have other numbers not been modelled?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
143	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Economic viability of irrigation industries	1. Has the MDBA assessed the impact on non-water related trends in the economic viability irrigation industries (such as enterprise consolidation, non-water input costs such as fertiliser and fuel, pricing and global market access) within the Murray Darling Basin? Can I obtain copies of these assessments?	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
144	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Ramsar wetlands commitments	1. Is the Authority looking at redefining its Ramsar wetlands commitments by lowering targets from 80% to 60%?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
145	4: MDBA	Hanson-Young	Basin plan proposals	1. Can the Authority nominate a 'base case' that it is pursuing or are its current proposals contingent on distinct regions?	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
146	4: MDBA	Joyce	Social and Economics References Committee	1. I note that on 1 March 2011 it was decided to "discontinue the establishment of the Social and Economic Reference Committee." Why was that decision made given that one of the criticisms of the Guide was that it did not take into account economic and social factors enough? 2. At the next meeting on 5 April 2011 the minutes state that "Members noted the concerns of nominees of the proposed Social and Economic Reference Committee at the disbandment of the Committee ... ". What were these concerns and have they been addressed in any way?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
147	4: MDBA	Joyce	Responding to media requests	1. At the meeting on 5 April it was decided that non-executive board members should seek clearance from the Chair or the Chief Executive, rather than the media unit as previously agreed, before responding to media requests, but that they should also check with the media unit in case there were any matters that they needed to be aware of. Did all board members agree with this decision? 2. How many requests from non-executive board members have been made to the Chair to request media appearances? Have any requests been rejected by the Chair?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
148	4: MDBA	Joyce	Governance structures	1. On 3 May 2011 the minutes note that:  The Secretary stated that, in his review of governance arrangements and the management of risk through current governance structures, it had emerged that written disclosures of conflicts of interest had not been completed by most Authority members for 2011. The Authority's own protocols (adopted on 1 February 2010, and reflecting the requirement of the Water Act 2007) required a written disclosure to be made on an annual basis, and as individual member's circumstances changed. The Chair therefore requested that all members provide a current written disclosure of conflicts of interest as soon as convenient.  Have all board members now disclosed conflicts of interests? Were these matters outstanding when the Guide was released last year?	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
149	4: MDBA	Joyce	MDBA - Expenditure on Basin Plan	1. How much has the Authority spent on the Basin plan to date? 2. How much does the Authority expect to spend on the Basin plan over the next financial year?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
150	4: MDBA	Joyce	Basin Plan Staff	1. How many staff does the Authority have working on the Basin plan?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
151	4: MDBA	Joyce	Basin Community Committee	1. Have applications closed for the second term of the Basin Community Committee? How many applications have been received?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
152	4: MDBA	Joyce	Briefings given by MDBA to the Minister	1. Could you please provide the Committee with a list of the briefings the MDBA has given to the Minister for Water or his staff, and the Prime Minister, or her staff, in the last 3 months?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
153	4: MDBA	Joyce	Records of decisions made by the MDBA	1. Could the Authority please provide this Committee with all the decisions it has made since 3 May in accordance with Section 198 of the Water Act which requires the Authority to keep records of all of its decisions?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
154	4: MDBA	Joyce	Minutes of meetings from 3 May 2011	1. Could you please provide the minutes to any of the meetings the Authority has held since 3 May 2011?	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
155	4: MDBA	Joyce	Communications of MDBA with Federal and state governments	1. What communications has the MDBA had since the release of the Guide with state and federal governments regarding the timetable for implementation of the Plan? Please provide lists of and copies of all relevant correspondence and meetings.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
156	4: MDBA	Joyce	Legal advice	1. Has the Authority received or requested any legal advice in relation to balancing the needs of the environment, communities and rural economies under the Water Act 2007, since Mr Knowles was appointed as Chair?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
157	4: MDBA	Joyce	Proposed Basin Plan Testing Committee	1. Please provide a list of all of the meetings of the Proposed Basin Plan Testing Committee? 2. How much has been spent on the Proposed Basin Plan Testing Committee to date?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
158	4: MDBA	Joyce	Proposed Basin Plan Development Working Group	1. Please provide a list of all of the meetings of the Proposed Basin Plan Development Working Group? 2. How much has been spent on the Proposed Basin Plan Development Working Group to date?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
159	4: MDBA	Birmingham	The Windsor report	1. Has the MDBA had any involvement in assisting the Government respond to the Windsor report? Please provide details of involvement.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
160	4: MDBA	Birmingham	Salinity in Lake Albert	1. Has the MDBA investigated any further works to reduce salinity in Lake Albert? Please detail any such proposals and provide an update on their status/progress?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
161	4: NWC	Joyce	Link between the Murray-Darling Basin and the Great Artesian Basin	<b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Can you give me what you believe are the interactions between the Murray-Darling Basin catchment and the Great Artesian Basin? <b>Mr Cameron:</b> I cannot give you a technical— <b>Senator JOYCE:</b> Hydrologically. <b>Mr Cameron:</b> I cannot give you a detailed hydrological answer. I would need	56 (18/10/11)	21/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				to take that on notice.			
162	4: NWC	Birmingham	Water price leaks	1. Is the NWC aware of allegations some state governments are leaking water allocation announcements to irrigators prior to their announcement, resulting in unfair distortions to the trading market? Please detail any specific incidences. What work has the NWC undertaken to investigate this and what action could be taken to prevent it?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
163	4: NWC	Birmingham	National Water Commission biennial assessment	1. In the recent NWC biennial assessment the NWC stated its frustration with the lack of progress on adjusting over allocated and overused water systems to sustainable levels. Please provide details of which systems remain over allocated and the cause of lack of progress in addressing over allocation in each case. 2. How would the NWC be assisted by receiving a government response to the previous 2009 biennial assessment? 3. What can be done to improve the speed and transparency in price information in the water market?	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
164	4: NWC	Birmingham	Urban water pricing report	1. Does the NWC believe establishing guidelines of the use of stormwater or recycled water in the potable water supply would be of benefit. Is the NWC currently, or is it seeking to, establish such guidelines. 2. Is the NWC aware of any proposals for the use of stormwater or recycled water in the potable supply and does it have a view on the merit of any such proposals?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
165	4: NWC	Waters	Impacts of Coal Seam Gas	1. In NWC's position statement on CSG, it states, if not adequately managed and regulated, CSG risks having significant, long-term and adverse impacts on adjacent surface and groundwater systems. If the government were to take a precautionary approach, what more information and research would be needed before the decision-maker prior to making a decision on whether a CSG project should proceed? 2. Adaptive management is being regularly used to allow this industry, with all its uncertainties, to proceed. Has NWC advised Government on the appropriateness of adaptive management and its application when drilling through aquifers? Can NWC step through how this management and regulatory approach is consistent with the precautionary principle?	Written	03/01/12	09/02/12
166	5.1: HWD	Abetz	Macquarie Island bird deaths	<b>Senator ABETZ:</b> Can you give me a breakdown of the species as you have done before—not now but on notice, because time is very short? <b>Mr Hooy:</b> I can certainly do that.	11 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
167	5.1: HWD	Siewert	West Kimberley Heritage Listing – King Sound	<b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> Can I please ask about the listing and King Sound. Can you confirm where the boundary is on King Sound? Is it the high-water mark or the low-water mark? <b>Mr Burnett:</b> I am sorry but I do not have a map with me so I cannot answer that question.	12 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p><b>Senator SIEWERT:</b> I am asking because we have been trying to get the maps. The minister's office has said they are not trying to stop us—but it is getting access to information, so I am not putting that on the record. But we are finding it very hard to find out whether it is the high-water mark or the low-water mark around the mangroves. I want to know what area of mangroves are in or out. To date we have not been able to find out. Is it possible for someone to find that out before I leave here today and not take it on notice please?</p> <p>...</p> <p><b>Mr Grimes:</b> Yes.</p>			
168	5.1: HWD	Boswell	Proposed World Heritage Listing of Cape York	<p><b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> Please detail exactly the programs funded and other support provided. You put \$3 million in; where is that \$3 million going?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> It is to support the process that Mr Murphy was outlining. As he said, Queensland have established two committees under the legislation. One is a general regional advisory committee; one is more a science based committee. Those committees are embarking on a process of consultation.</p> <p><b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> What funding or other support has been provided by the department to any non-government organisation in relation to the proposed World Heritage listing of Cape York?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> None that I am aware of, other than the \$3 million.</p> <p><b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> So no other money has gone to any conservation group on World Heritage listings?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> Not specifically to support a World Heritage assessment, to my knowledge.</p> <p><b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> Could you check that please?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> Yes.</p> <p><b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> I find that very difficult to believe; I suspect there are. My next question was going to ask you the nature of the funding, the type of programs et cetera. If there are, would you take that one on notice too?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> Yes.</p>	15 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
169	5.1: HWD	Boswell	Proposed World Heritage Listing of Cape York – collaboration with non-government agencies	<p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> As a general proposition, yes. But I am not quite sure what you are driving at.</p> <p><b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> I am asking very clearly: does the department work with other Commonwealth departments on the proposed World Heritage listing, and does the department work collaboratively with any non-government agency on the pursuit of the World Heritage listing of Cape York?</p> <p><b>Mr Burnett:</b> In the course of a process like this we would talk to lots of different bodies and we would try to be as collaborative as possible. There are none that I am aware of where we have formally partnered up with them. The consultation process is being run principally by Queensland through the committee process that Mr Murphy referred to.</p>	15 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> I ask you to take that question on notice.			
170	5.1: HWD	Waters	Heritage advice - Gladstone Harbour	<b>Senator WATERS:</b> Okay. I am seeking a copy of the advice provided by the heritage officials to the minister in the course of making the approval decision to dump 11 million cubic metres into the harbour. Could that be supplied? <b>Ms Dripps:</b> Certainly. As we indicated last night, we would need to check what was in the 20 boxes that were tabled in the Senate late last year. We suspect that it might be among that, but if it is not we will provide it. <b>Senator WATERS:</b> Thank you. If you could facilitate that, it would be great. <b>Senator BOSWELL:</b> I would like a copy of that too.	16 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
171	5.1: HWD	Birmingham	National Heritage List assessments	1. How many assessments for inclusion on the National Heritage List are being conducted this financial year? How does this compare with each of the past three financial years?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
172	5.1: HWD	Birmingham	Development of Heritage Management Plans	1. How many heritage management plans are being developed this financial year? How does this compare with each of the past three financial years?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
173	5.1: HWD	Rhiannon	World Heritage Listing	1. How many applications for world heritage listing is your department currently handling? 2. Approximately how long is the process for your department to pursue world heritage listing for a national park? 3. Which other agencies would you have to work with? 4. How is the decision made to prioritise applications for world heritage listing? What criteria is used to determine the priority that an application is given by your department? 5. What are the administrative costs for your department to pursue world heritage listing for a national park? 6. Are there any additional capital or recurrent costs for a national park once it receives world heritage listing? 7. How can your department assist community groups in their campaign to get world heritage listing for the Royal National Park in Sydney? 8. What challenges do you foresee in gaining world heritage listing for the Royal National Park?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
174	5.1: HWD	Waters and Wright	Impact of funding cut on Heritage Division	1. Past answers to Estimates questions have indicated the total staffing for the Heritage Division has reduced from 102 in 2010-11 to 78 in the current financial year. Is this still correct? 2. What are the positions that have been lost, in particular has there been a reduction in expert heritage positions in natural or cultural heritage? If such positions have been cut, how many positions related to natural, Indigenous and historic heritage? 3. Has there been a reduction in the number of sections in the Division	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				dealing with natural or cultural heritage and, if so, how many sections have been cut and what were they? 4. What work will be affected by the reduced staffing? Will heritage assessments or the provision of statutory or non-statutory advice be impacted? 5. Given the Heritage Division staffing of 78 (or final figure as advised in response to question 1), how many of these positions are funded from non-recurrent sources?			
175	5.1: HWD	Waters and Wright	Heritage performance under the EPBC Act	1. In answer to previous questions on notice, information has been provided about: a. the number of heritage assessments completed which have stalled awaiting a decision, some for years; b. the slow progress with completion of heritage strategies by Commonwealth agencies, despite the deadline being 2006 for such strategies; and c. the slow progress with finalisation of management plans for Commonwealth Heritage places, with only one being finalised since 2004. 2. Has there been any progress in these areas, and how are the recent staff cuts expected to impact on progress?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
176	5.1: HWD	Waters and Wright	Australian Heritage Strategy	1. Can you provide an update on the development of the Australian Heritage Strategy, including when a draft will be publicly released and when it will be completed? 2. How are the recent staff cuts expected to impact on progress with the strategy?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
177	5.1: HWD	Waters	Tarkine – National Heritage Listing	1. For the current heritage assessment of the Tarkine, how do the terms of reference for this assessment differ from those for the emergency heritage listing assessment, that was completed in October 2010? 2. The Council has advised the Minister that finalising the current assessment has been delayed because more time is needed to assess heritage values and to determine boundaries. Why is more time needed to assess the values, given they have already been assessed as part of the 2010 emergency listing? Part of that report that appeared on the AHC website before being removed outlines those values in extensive detail and shows conclusively that the area has well known heritage values – in fact the report states: “The natural and cultural values of the Tarkine are well recognised and include” and goes on to list over a page of values that meet National Heritage criteria... So what is the delay – what specific values are taking more time to assess? 3. Please provide information on the proposed boundaries of the heritage area – what boundary changes are being considered now – what will be the total area protected, what is being looked at being excised? 4. The Tarkine has priceless Aboriginal heritage, which has some	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				documentation along the coast, but our understanding is that little work has been done on Aboriginal heritage in the inland and rainforest sections. What steps are the Council and/ or the Department taking to assess Aboriginal heritage in areas like Mt Lindsay, where there is now proposed to be anywhere between 5 – 34km2 of open cut tin mining?			
178	5.1: HWD	Rhiannon	Regional Forestry Agreements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. On what basis has the Government decided to continue exempting Regional Forest Agreement areas from the EPBC Act, in the absence of any evidence from the Hawke review, RFA reviews or independent scientific research that RFAs are effective in protecting threatened species?</li> <li>2. Do you have any plans to review this decision?</li> <li>3. What work has your department undertaken to review the protection of threatened species under RFAs?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
179	5.1: HWD	Waters	UNESCO assessment of Great Barrier Reef World Heritage area	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. I note that the State and Federal Governments are to undertake a strategic assessment of coastal development on the Reef, in response to the World Heritage Committee's urgings - what advice has or will the Department provided to the Minister regarding whether any applications which may impact on the GBR's World Heritage values should be progressed or should be placed on hold pending the completion of the Strategic Assessment? What advice has the Department provided, or will the Department provide, about whether development of existing approved CSG activities should be suspended pending the completion of the Strategic Assessment? If nil to either, what will be left to be strategically assessed?</li> <li>2. Did the Department provide any advice to the Minister regarding the need to alert UNESCO of the risk to the Great Barrier Reef's world heritage values, when it was proposed to approve multiple LNG export facilities and accompanying dredging as part of those projects? (including considering the increased commercial shipping throughout the reef associated with these projects)?</li> <li>3. Does the Department agree with the decision of the World Heritage Committee at its meeting of June 2011 regarding the impact of LNG facilities on the Outstanding Universal Values of the Great Barrier Reef? Does the Department share the "extreme concern" of the World Heritage Committee regarding LNG development along the Great Barrier Reef coast? Was the Department surprised by UNESCO's recommendation that expressed 'extreme concern' about the impact of LNG development on the GBR world heritage area?</li> <li>4. Given the WHC has expressed 'extreme concern' regarding the impact of LNG development on the GBR world heritage area, what if any additional actions has the Department taken to ensure that current approved projects will be properly managed? Can you provide details of the specific management</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>interventions that are planned to protect the Outstanding Universal Values of the GBR and what if any federal funding is being invested for each intervention?</p> <p>5. Which Department or agency is the lead negotiator with UNESCO on the Gladstone harbour issue? Did Australia pressure UNESCO to tone down their initial draft resolution which called for Curtis Island development to be halted until the World Heritage Committee had assessed the environmental impacts?</p>			
180	5.2: EACD	Waters	Applications for dredging in the World Heritage area	<p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> ...Are you tracking—and I certainly hope you are—the cumulative figures of both approved and applied for dredging in the World Heritage area, up and down the coast? It is not just Gladstone Harbour; there are all sorts of new coal ports proposed which entail millions and millions of cubic metres of dredging within the World Heritage area. I am keen to know the exact figures on that—what has been approved; what has been applied for; what is being dumped offshore; and have you notified UNESCO of those applications and approvals as per the requirement to do so?</p> <p><b>Ms Dripps:</b> We are certainly aware of the range of different proposals. I suggest that we take on notice the tabling of the specific figures about the volumes. Again, it will come from the environmental assessments and compliance grant.</p> <p><b>Senator WATERS:</b> Thank you very much.</p>	17 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
181	5.2: EACD	Birmingham	Olympic Dam approval – operation of the desalination plant	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> So you are not able to tell me whether the report provided to the Commonwealth either included a report from SARDI on the implications of the desal plant or was informed by a report from SARDI on the implications of the desal plant or what input they necessarily had?</p> <p><b>Mr Barker:</b> The South Australian assessment report would have involved contributions of all relevant state agencies but I would need to pursue further detail about the extent at which SARDI may have contributed to that report.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> If you could pursue that detail, Mr Barker, and provide that to us on notice that would be much appreciated.</p>	24 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
182	5.2: EACD	Birmingham	Sugarloaf Pipeline	<p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> My last question is one about the Sugarloaf Pipeline. I draw your attention to a question on notice No. 127 in which the department kindly pointed me to the Melbourne Water website to attempt to give me an answer! That website is not particularly clear on the questions that I asked, so I will put them on the record now. If you can answer them now, great; if not, if you could actually provide announcer this time and not a web link that would be appreciated.</p> <p>As I understand it, water is not currently being sent down the north-south pipeline. I am seeking to confirm that is the department's understanding; to check what reporting conditions remain on Melbourne Water while no water is being extracted; and to find out whether the government is aware of how the</p>	25 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>water allocated to the pipeline is currently being used—whether it is being used for environmental flows, irrigator activities or what is actually happening to the 75 gig allocated for pipeline usage.</p> <p><b>Ms Dripps:</b> We will have to take those questions on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator BIRMINGHAM:</b> Thank you.</p>			
183	5.2: EACD	Macdonald	Boral quarry in Currumbin Valley	<p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> It is a Boral quarry in Currumbin Valley. Boral proposed it and the Queensland state government have approved it subject to EPBC, but it impacts upon the Currumbin Valley wetlands, which I understand are RAMSAR listed. It is one of the few bits of mass greenery left on the southern Gold Coast. You are not familiar with the application?</p> <p><b>Mr Barker:</b> I am sorry, Senator—I do not have details of that project in front of me. We would need to take that on notice.</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> Are you the one that would?</p> <p><b>Mr Barker:</b> I expect I would be, yes.</p> <p><b>Senator IAN MACDONALD:</b> Could you give me on notice some advice about it—where it is at, what is happening, what needs to be done, when decisions are likely to be made—because it is an issue that is very strongly opposed by all the residents in the area.</p>	28 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12
184	5.2: EACD	Xenophon	Adequacy of the EPBC Act	<p><b>Ms Dripps:</b> ...I just wanted to check that we understood the question. The question was about the adequacy of the EPBC Act?</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> It has been put to me by those who have environmental concerns for the long-term health of the Great Artesian Basin that the act may constrain, either in terms of environmental impact or in terms of ongoing monitoring, the potential long-term impacts of coal-seam gas extraction—fracking and the chemicals used in fracking—and also the long-term impact of a sustained withdrawal of water from the basin and in particular in the context of the Olympic Dam expansion.</p> <p><b>Ms Dripps:</b> The matters that can be considered under the EPBC Act are matters of national environmental significance. The EPBC Act comes into play in assessing a proposal where we have a species or an ecological community that is listed, or a Ramsar wetland that is likely to be impacted. Where that is not the case, the EPBC Act does not come into play at all.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> So, for instance, in the event that there is a concern as to what impact this could have on the long-term health of the basin from salinity or other matters with respect to sustained significant extractions from a proportion of the basin, and in the absence of those factors that you have listed, there would not be a role for the EPBC Act to be involved?</p> <p><b>Ms Dripps:</b> That is correct.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> In relation to the issue of coal-seam gas Senator Joyce has raised the impact of seepage. As I understand it, as a result of fracking for</p>	41-42 (18/10/11)	06/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>instance and the chemicals used in fracking, it is that very slow movement of the water table and impacts on adjoining properties which may take many years. Is that something that the act is not able in its current form to look at?</p> <p><b>Ms Dripps:</b> The act in its current form does not consider the impact on farming land, for example. But what we have in the situation of the three very large Queensland coal-seam gas projects is very conservative conditions set around repressurisation and reinjection of aquifers because of the connection to the mound spring ecological communities. Ms Colreavy might add to that.</p> <p><b>Ms Colreavy:</b> Thank you. There are two issues that you have raised here that I might be able to assist you with ... We should be up to see very early in the period of time if there is in fact a draw-down.</p> <p><b>Senator XENOPHON:</b> Because of time constraints you can provide some more details on notice in relation to that. Also, if you rely on the companies to provide those reports of connectivity is there a capacity to do spot checks to audit that?</p> <p><b>Ms Colreavy:</b> Yes.</p>			
185	5.2: EACD	Siewert	Fitzgerald National Park	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are you aware of the threat that dieback poses to the Fitzgerald National Park?</li> <li>2. Have you collected any information relating to the status of dieback in this region?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
186	5.2: EACD	Siewert	Seismic surveys – North-west marine region	<p>Please provide information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The number of seismic survey compliance reports (as required under EPBC Act policy statement 2.1) relating to the North-west marine bioregion received by the department in the last 5 years? The number/percentage of those surveys that <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. included the use of a single Marine Mammal Observer</li> <li>b. included the use of one or more Marine Mammal Observers</li> <li>c. included the use of spotter aircraft or vessels</li> <li>d. included the use of passive acoustic monitoring</li> <li>e. powered down because of cetacean sightings</li> <li>f. shut down because of cetacean sightings</li> <li>g. mention whale interactions.</li> <li>h. included operation at night-time</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
187	5.2: EACD	Di Natale	Dredging of Gippsland Lakes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What studies did the Department rely on to ensure that the salt content of the system is the same now (after the 2008 trial) than it was when the Gippsland lakes were listed as Ramsar protected in 1982?</li> <li>2. If the salt content of the system is currently different to 1982 levels, has the government informed the Ramsar Secretariat of the changes to the lakes as required by Article 3.2 of the Ramsar Convention? If not, what are the reasons behind not informing the Secretariat?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>3. Did the Minister's delegate agree with all of the assumptions presented by Gippsland Ports regarding the effects on the Ramsar listed lakes? If not, how did it differ?</p> <p>4. Is the Department able to confirm the precise depth and width levels of dredging currently being conducted and how this compares to historical (pre-2008 trial) levels?</p> <p>5. If the current width and depth are greater than historical levels, was the Minister's delegate aware of this discrepancy when considering Gippsland Ports referral which stated "the proposed action is maintenance dredging which does not seek to enlarge or deepen the existing channel profiles" and "the proposed dredging work will be in channels which have been subject to continuous maintenance dredging for over 30 years, and historical records show that dredging in the Gippsland Lakes has occurred since 1879"?</p> <p>6. Was any modelling, other than that provided by Gippsland Ports used to conclude that salinity 'influences from tidal influences only have a minor role [in increasing salinity levels in the Gippsland Lakes]'?</p> <p>7. In the statement of reasons, the delegate stated 'changes in the salinity levels in the Gippsland Lakes in recent years can be predominately attributed to a reduction in freshwater inflows, caused by lower rainfall and water extraction. What are the other 'attributable' factors the delegate considered for changes in salinity levels and how much relative weight were these factors given?</p> <p>8. In the statement of reasons, the delegate stated 'creating a deeper and wider channel through the bar will not in and of itself increase the flow of water to the lakes'. On what basis was this claim made?</p> <p>9. Were the cumulative simultaneous impacts between future low rainfall, water extraction, nutrient deposits from irrigation and saltwater intrusion from intensive dredging considered by the delegate?</p> <p>10. How much consideration did the Department give to the correlation between the Victorian EPA's salinity test results before and after the deepened dredging?</p> <p>11. Gippsland Ports' referral on page 16 states that a depth of 3.5m is needed for navigational reliability. Was any consideration given by the department to reducing the permitted depth back from the proposed 5.5m so as to balance environmental and economic concerns?</p> <p>12. What departmental processes occurred once they were informed by the Environment Defenders Office that Gippsland Port had failed to refer the project?</p> <p>13. How did the Department come to the conclusion not to fine Gippsland Ports for twice breaching the Act by dredging without making a referral in June 2009 and July 2010?</p>			

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
188	5.2: EACD	Nash	Bonshaw to Lismore Transgrid Line Proposal	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has the Bonshaw to Lismore Transgrid Line Proposal been given approval by the Minister? If so, given the enormous amount the Government is spending on a 'clean energy future' – why is this project still going ahead, when it appears contrary to the government's target of a 'clean energy future'?</li> <li>Has the Environmental Impact Study into the Bonshaw to Lismore Transgrid line provided any information that would prevent this line from going ahead?</li> <li>Were any alternatives considered when planning the Bonshaw to Lismore Transgrid Line Proposal?</li> <li>Have any complaints been made with regard to the Bonshaw to Lismore Transgrid Line Proposal?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
189	5.2: EACD	Siewert	EPBC referrals – North-west marine region	<p>Please provide information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of referrals made under the EPBC Act in the last 5 years for oil and gas-related infrastructure and production activity in the North-west marine bioregion? The number of those that have <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>been approved</li> <li>been approved if conducted in a particular manner</li> <li>been approved as controlled actions</li> <li>been refused</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
190	5.2: EACD	Siewert	EPBC referrals – North-west marine region – seismic surveys	<p>Please provide information on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The number of referrals made under the EPBC Act in the last 5 years that have involved seismic surveys in the North-west marine bioregion? The number of those involving seismic surveys that have <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>been approved</li> <li>been approved if conducted in a particular manner</li> <li>been approved as controlled actions</li> <li>been refused</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
191	5.2: EACD	Siewert	Busselton hospital Redevelopment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Is the work currently underway at this site in breach of the EPBC Assessment requirements?</li> <li>Is the Department monitoring the work at this site?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
192	5.2: EACD	Waters	Coal mines	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many new or expanded coal mines were approved under the EPBC Act in 2009-10, and 2010-11? What is the total mega tonnes of thermal and coking coal that these mines represent? (ie per annum)</li> <li>What percentage of this (approximately) coal is to be exported?</li> <li>When burnt, what is the total CO2 emissions represented by these mines? How does this compare with our national emissions?</li> <li>Does the Department advise the Minister on the climate change impacts when considering significant impacts of proposals on climate-sensitive MNES (eg GBR, species)? Can the Department supply a copy of an example of the type of advice that is provided, especially for significant new coal mine</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				proposals?			
193	5.2: EACD	Waters	Deep sea mining	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Have any deep sea mining projects been approved under the EPBC Act? Applied for?</li> <li>2. Can the Department confirm that any deep sea mining project occurring in Commonwealth waters would require EPBC assessment and approval? What other Commonwealth approvals have been or are likely to be needed by such projects?</li> <li>3. Has there been an upwards trend in applications for deep sea mining? Is the Department considering proposing a strategic approach to management of this industry?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
194	5.2: EACD	Waters	Gladstone Harbour dredging – EPBC Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Given the unfolding environmental disaster in Gladstone Harbour (and the extreme turbidity which has caused dredging to be ceased twice already), has or will the Department recommend to the Minister that the dredging permit be suspended and reviewed?</li> <li>2. In August SEWPaC undertook to advise me on the scope to suspend approval for dredging using the provisions of the EPBC Act regarding changed circumstances (for example, the Qld floods). However in the actual dredging approval conditions themselves there is significant discretion for the Minister to amend the conditions. Has the Department recommended that the Minister amend the dredging conditions since the approval was granted? If so, in what manner and for what reason?</li> <li>3. Regarding the amendment to the Gladstone Ports Corporation dredging conditions made in August, what was the purpose of those changes and what on-ground impacts will those amendments have? Why was the decision taken to amend the conditions at that time given the wildlife deaths which were already being recorded by that stage? Please provide any correspondence between the Department and Gladstone Ports Corporation regarding these amendments.</li> <li>4. As required by condition 9 of the Gladstone Ports Corporation sea dumping permit, has the Department received any notification of an environmental incident or identified environmental risk (ie dredging was suspended twice, did GPC notify Cth of this?) Please provide a copy of any report supplied including the requisite discussion of measures taken, their success and future proposed measures.</li> <li>5. As part of the EPBC assessment of the Gladstone Port dredging project and/or the sea dumping permit assessment, what advice did the Department give Minister Burke regarding the impacts of dumping 11 million cubic metres of dredge spoil (a) within the World heritage Area, and (b) 400m from the boundary of the GBR marine park area? Has the Department or GBRMPA received any applications for dredging or dumping within the GBRMPA?</li> </ol>	Written	21/12/11 + 6 att'ts	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				6. Given the current level of impacts on the World Heritage Area around Gladstone Harbor can you advise what impacts the proposed Xstrata coal port development on Balaclava island are likely to have on the World Heritage Values of the Great Barrier Reef?			
195	5.2: EACD	Waters	Dredging impacts on the Great Barrier Reef	1. What are cumulative figures of approved dredging currently being undertaken within the GBR WHA? Applied for? Total amount in cubic metres of offshore dumping approved? Applied for? 2. Has the Department notified UNESCO as per para 172 of UNESCO's operational guidelines for the Implementation of the WH Convention? Have you considered the cumulative impacts of all that dredging and offshore dumping or just project by project assessment?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
196	5.2: EACD	Waters	Coal Seam Gas	1. Has the Department added any additional staff to monitor the hundreds of conditions on the EPBC CSG approvals issued to date? Allocated any extra resources for additional enforcement of those conditions?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
197	5.2: EACD	Waters	Enforcement action on EPBC breaches	1. What is the total number and nature of enforcement actions have been taken for breaches of any EPBC conditions since the commencement of the Act up to today's date? Please provide a breakdown which also specifies which industries the enforcement actions relate to.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
198	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - media subscriptions	1. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to pay TV (for example Foxtel)? a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what channels. b. What was the cost for 2010-11? c. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? 2. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to newspapers? a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what newspapers. b. What was the cost for 2010-11? c. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12? 3. Does your department or agencies within your portfolio subscribe to magazines? a. If yes, please provide the reason why, the cost and what magazines. d. What was the cost for 2010-11? e. What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
199	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPac - staffing	1. Within the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities, how many divisions are there and what are their names? 2. How many staff are there in each of these divisions? 3. Where is each division located and what are their staffing numbers?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
200	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPac - accommodation	1. How many office locations are there within your department and where is each located? 2. What is the size of each of these offices and are they leased or owned?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>3. If the office is rented, what is the amount and what is the breakdown of rent per square metre?</p> <p>4. What is the value of the buildings owned and what is the depreciation of those buildings?</p>			
201	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC expenditure	<p>1. Provide details on expenditure for 2010-11 for the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities on the following; advertising, travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international), hospitality and entertainment, ICT, consultancy, education/training of staff, external accounting, external auditing, external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations?</p> <p>2. Provide a further breakdown of the above expenditure for each group within the department: advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p> <p>3. Within each divisional area, provide a further breakdown of expenditure under each Assistant Secretary: : advertising (\$mn), travel (including breakdown: of business versus economy, domestic versus international) (\$mn), hospitality and entertainment (\$mn), ICT (\$mn), consultancy (\$mn), education/training of staff (\$mn), external accounting (\$mn), external auditing (\$mn), external legal and membership or grants paid to affiliate organisations (\$mn)?</p>	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
202	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC - overseas travel	<p>For financial year 2010-11:</p> <p>1. How many DSEWPaC staff travelled overseas? Please detail by staff member, including their name and position and their total travel expenses. How many staff travelled first class? How many staff travelled business class?</p> <p>2. What was the total cost of overseas travel for DSEWPaC? Please include a list of all international travel itemised by trip, detailing the number of DSEWPaC staff involved and the cost of each trip including the total amounts spent on accommodation and meals, cities or other destinations visited, the purpose of the travel and any specific outcomes achieved.</p> <p>3. What was the total amount spent by DSEWPaC on overseas accommodation and meals?</p> <p>4. How many staff travelled interstate?</p> <p>5. What was the total accommodation and meals bill for staff travelling interstate over the past year?</p> <p>6. How many future overseas trips is DSEWPaC currently planning?</p>	Written	21/12/11	09/02/12
203	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC - training	<p>1. Please detail all staff training programs for which DSEWPaC paid in financial year 2010-11, including costs, numbers of participants, the title of</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				each training program and the name of each training provider.			
204	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC - advertising	1. Please detail all advertising expenditure in financial year 2010-11 by campaign, including the campaign's purpose, total cost (including campaign research and design) and media (i.e. print, radio, TV etc) involved. In each case, if the campaign was part of a broader strategy, what other communications activities were undertaken and at what cost? Please provide a similar breakdown on budgeted future spending.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
205	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC - external fees/consultants	1. For both calendar year 2011 to date and financial year 2010-11, please provide a breakdown by category (e.g. legal advice) of total costs paid to external consultants. For all payments in excess of \$10,000, please itemise and detail the name of the consultant, work undertaken and the total payments made to the consultant.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
206	Corporate: CSD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC - conferences	1. Please detail any overseas international conferences partly or fully funded by the Department in financial year 2010-11. For each conference fully funded please identify: (a) the venue; (b) the reason for each conference; (c) the number of registered participants; (d) whether consultancy fees were paid for organisation of the conference; (e) to whom were any consultancy fees paid; and (f) the cost of each consultancy?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
207	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - staffing	For the portfolio 1. How many permanent staff recruited this FYTD? 2. What classification are these staff? 3. How many temporary positions exist or have been created this FYTD? 4. This FYTD, how many employees have been employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? 5. How many permanent staff were recruited for the year 2010-11? 6. What classification are these staff? 7. How many temporary positions exist or were created for the year 2010-11? 8. For the year 2010-11, how many employees were employed on contract and what is the average length of their employment period? 9. Are there any plans for staff reduction? If so, please advise details ie. reduction target, how this will be achieved, services/programs to be cut etc. If there are plans for staff reductions, please give the reason why these are happening.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
208	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - efficiency dividend	For the portfolio: 1. How has the efficiency dividend been implemented? 2. Please list where and what spending has been reduced to meet the efficiency dividend.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
209	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide-hospitality and entertainment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the portfolios hospitality spend for the year 2010-11? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.</li> <li>2. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total hospitality spend for the year 2010-11. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.</li> <li>3. What was the Department's entertainment spend for the year 2010-11? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.</li> <li>4. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, please detail total entertainment spend for the year 2010-11. Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.</li> <li>5. What hospitality spend is the portfolio planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.</li> <li>6. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what hospitality spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.</li> <li>7. What entertainment spend is the portfolio planning on spending? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events.</li> <li>8. For each Minister and Parliamentary Secretary office, what entertainment spend is currently being planned for? Detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event.</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
210	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide-consultancies	<p>For the portfolio:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many consultancies were undertaken in 2010-11? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.</li> <li>2. Were there any changes to any of the portfolio's tenders in 2010-11? Detail any changes</li> <li>3. How many consultancies have been undertaken or are underway this FYTD? Identify the name of the consultant, the subject matter of the consultancy, the duration and cost of the arrangement, and the method of procurement (ie. open tender, direct source, etc). Also include total value for all consultancies.</li> <li>4. Does each department and agency stand by its current tenders on the Austenders website? Have any changes or corrections been made for any tenders advertised on to Government Tenders website (<a href="http://www.tenders.gov.au">www.tenders.gov.au</a>) for tenders advertised this financial year? Explain. Are up to date with reporting requirements?</li> <li>5. How many consultancies are planned for this calendar year? Have these been published in your Annual Procurement Plan (APP) on the AusTender website and if not why not? In each case please identify the subject matter,</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				duration, cost and method of procurement as above, and the name of the consultant if known.			
211	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - contractors	<p>Since May 2011:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the portfolio ever employed Hawker Britton in any capacity or is it considering employing Hawker Britton? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>2. Has the portfolio ever employed Shannon's Way in any capacity or is it considering employing Shannon's Way? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>3. Has the portfolio ever employed John Utting &amp; UMR Research Group in any capacity or is it considering employing John Utting &amp; UMR Research Group? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>4. Has the portfolio ever employed McCann-Erickson in any capacity or is it considering employing McCann-Erickson? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>5. Has the portfolio ever employed Cutting Edge in any capacity or is it considering employing Cutting Edge? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>6. Has the portfolio ever employed Ikon Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing Ikon Communications? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>7. Has the portfolio ever employed CMAX Communications in any capacity or is it considering employing CMAX Communications? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>8. Has the portfolio ever employed Boston Consulting Group in any capacity or is it considering employing Boston Consulting Group? If yes, provide details.</li> <li>9. Has the portfolio ever employed McKinsey &amp; Company in any capacity or is it considering employing McKinsey &amp; Company? If yes, provide details.</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
212	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - Government payment of accounts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. For the year 2010-11, did the department and its agencies paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. For accounts not paid within 30 days, was interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?</li> <li>b. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. For the FYTD, has the department/agency paid its accounts to contractors/consultants etc in accordance with Government policy in terms of time for payment (i.e.within 30 days)? If not, why not, and what has been the timeframe for payment of accounts? Please provide a breakdown, average statistics etc as appropriate to give insight into how this issue is being approached.)</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>a. For accounts not paid within 30 days, is interest being paid on overdue amounts and if so how much has been paid by the portfolio/department agency for the current financial year and the previous financial year?</p> <p>b. Where interest is being paid, what rate of interest is being paid and how is this rate determined?</p>			
213	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - stationery requirements	1. How much was spent by each department and agency on the government (Ministers/Parliamentary Secretaries) stationery requirements in your portfolio (i.e. paper, envelopes, with compliments slips) in 2010-11? What is the estimated cost for 2011-12?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
214	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - education expenses	<p>1. For the year 2010-11, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant.</p> <p>2. For the FYTD, detail all education expenses (i.e. in house courses and tertiary studies) for each portfolio department and agency. Include what type of course, the total cost, cost per participant, how many participants and the amount of study leave granted to each participant.</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
215	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training for the year 2010-11	<p>1. In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information for the year 2010-11:</p> <p>a. Total spending on these services</p> <p>b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification</p> <p>c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted</p> <p>d. The names of all service providers engaged</p> <p>2. For each service purchased from a provider listed under (4), please provide:</p> <p>a. The name and nature of the service purchased</p> <p>b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based</p> <p>c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification</p> <p>d. The total number of hours involved for all employees</p> <p>e. The total amount spent on the service</p> <p>f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)</p> <p>3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <p>a. The location used</p> <p>b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location.			
216	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Executive Coaching and Leadership Training FYTD	<p>1. In relation to the purchase of executive coaching and/or other leadership training services purchased by each portfolio department and agency, please provide the following information FYTD:</p> <p>a. Total spending on these services</p> <p>b. The number of employees offered these services and their employment classification</p> <p>c. The number of employees who have utilised these services, their employment classification and how much study leave each employee was granted</p> <p>d. The names of all service providers engaged</p> <p>2. For each service purchased form a provider listed under (4), please provide:</p> <p>a. The name and nature of the service purchased</p> <p>b. Whether the service is one-on-one or group based</p> <p>c. The number of employees who received the service and their employment classification</p> <p>d. The total number of hours involved for all employees</p> <p>e. The total amount spent on the service</p> <p>f. A description of the fees charged (i.e. per hour, complete package)</p> <p>3. Where a service was provided at any location other than the department or agency's own premises, please provide:</p> <p>a. The location used</p> <p>b. The number of employees who took part on each occasion</p> <p>c. The total number of hours involved for all employees who took part</p> <p>d. Any costs the department or agency's incurred to use the location</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
217	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide-paid parental leave	<p>1. Please list how many staff in each portfolio department and agency are eligible to receive payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme?</p> <p>2. For the year 2010-11 list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.</p> <p>3. For the FYTD list which portfolio department and agencies are providing its employees with payments under the Government's Paid Parental Leave scheme? Please list how many staff are in receipt of these payments.</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
218	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Training for Portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretary	1. For both 2010-11 and year to date, how much is spent on training for Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries in your portfolio? Itemise each training, cost and for which Minister and/or Parliamentary Secretary the training was for.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
219	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide-corporate cars	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How cars are owned by each department and agency in your portfolio?</li> <li>Where is the car/s located?</li> <li>What is the car/s used for?</li> <li>What was the cost of each car for 2010-11?</li> <li>How far did each car travel in 2010-11?</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
220	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - taxi costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How much did each department/agency spend on taxis in 2010-11?</li> </ol> Provide a breakdown of each business group in each department/agency.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
221	Corporate: CSD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - credit cards	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>How many staff in each department and agency have a corporate credit card? What is their classification?</li> <li>What action is taken if the corporate credit card is misused?</li> <li>How is corporate credit card use monitored?</li> <li>What happens if misuse of a corporate credit card is discovered?</li> <li>Have any instances of corporate credit card misuse have been discovered? List staff classification and what the misuse was, and the action taken.</li> <li>What action is taken to prevent corporate credit card misuse?</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
222	Corporate: PCD	Birmingham	DSEWPaC - Freedom of Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>For both calendar year 2011 to date and financial year 2011-12, how many Freedom of Information applications have been received? Please provide breakdowns of the numbers of applications granted in full, granted in part, refused, withdrawn and still being processed. For those withdrawn, please provide a further breakdown indicating whether the application was withdrawn before or after the applicant was notified of estimated costs.</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
223	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Freedom of Information	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Has the Department or agencies received any advice on how to respond to FOI requests?</li> <li>How many FOI requests has the Department received for the year 2010-11? How many have been granted or denied?</li> <li>How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for the year 2010-11?</li> <li>How many FOI requests has the Department received for this FYTD? How many have been granted or denied?</li> <li>How many conclusive certificates have been issued in relation to FOI requests for this FYTD?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
224	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - legal costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</li> <li>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</li> <li>What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>4. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services for the year 2010-11 from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>5. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD within the department and agency? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>6. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from the Australian Government Solicitor? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>7. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from private firms? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p> <p>8. What sum did each portfolio department and agency spend on legal services FYTD from other sources? Please provide a list of each service and costs.</p>			
225	Corporate: PCD	Birmingham	Departmental programs	<p>1. Please provide a breakdown over the forward estimates of each departmental program including: program title; program summary; is the program ongoing, lapsing, or terminating; breakdown of administered and departmental costs; program staffing numbers and location?</p> <p>2. Are there any cross-portfolio programs within your Department?</p> <p>3. What are the titles of these cross-portfolio programs and what departments/agencies are involved?</p> <p>4. What is the expenditure breakdown of the cross-portfolio programs (e.g. administered and departmental costs)?</p>	Written	06/12/11 + 1 att't	09/02/12
226	Corporate: PCD	Birmingham	Board appointments	<p>1. Within the portfolio how many Boards exist? What are the terms of appointment of each board? What is the Tenure for appointment of each board? Who sits on each board?</p>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
227	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - Government advertising	<p>1. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – has the Department and Agencies undertaken in 2011-12? Provide details of each advertising, including the program the advertising was for, the total spend and the business that provided the advertising services.</p> <p>2. Did the Department of Finance and Deregulation provide any advice about the advertising? Provide details of each advertising item.</p> <p>3. Did the Advertising comply with the Guidelines on Information and Advertising Campaigns by Australian Government Departments and Agencies (March 2010)? Provide the details for each advertising item.</p> <p>4. Provide details for any other communications program, including details of the program, the total spend and the business that provided the communication services.</p> <p>5. What advertising – Campaign and Non-Campaign – and other</p>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				communications programs is the Department/Agency undertaking, or are planning to undertake?			
228	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - board appointments	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is the gender ratio on each board and across the portfolio?</li> <li>2. Detail any board appointments for the year 2010-11.</li> <li>3. Please detail any board appointments for the FYTD.</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
229	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	DSEWPaC - grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?</li> </ol>	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
230	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Community Cabinets	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held for the year 2010-11?</li> <li>2. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel?</li> <li>3. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11? What was the total cost of this travel?</li> <li>4. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings for the year 2010-11?</li> <li>5. What was the cost of Ministers travel and expenses for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?</li> <li>6. How many Ministerial Staff travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel?</li> <li>7. How many Departmental officers travelled with the Minister for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD? What was the total cost of this travel?</li> <li>8. What was the total cost to the Department and the Ministers office for the Community Cabinet meetings held this FYTD?</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
231	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Reviews	<p>For the year 2010-11:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. How many Reviews were being undertaken by all departments and agencies in each portfolio?</li> <li>2. When will each of these reviews be concluded?</li> <li>3. What reviews have been concluded?</li> <li>4. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?</li> <li>5. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed?</li> <li>6. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?</li> </ol> <p>For this financial year to date:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What reviews are planned?</li> <li>2. When will each of these reviews be concluded?</li> <li>3. What reviews have been concluded this FYTD?</li> <li>4. Which of these reviews has been provided to Government?</li> </ol>	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				5. When will the Government be responding to the respective reviews that have been completed? 6. What is the estimated cost of each of these Reviews?			
232	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - media monitoring	1. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Minister's office for the year 2010-11? a. Which agency or agencies provided these services? b. What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? c. What has been spent providing these services FYTD?  2. What was the total cost of media monitoring services, including press clippings, electronic media transcripts etcetera, provided to the Department and its agencies for the year 2010-11? a. Which agency or agencies provided these services? b. What is the estimated budget to provide this same services for the year 2011-12? c. What has been spent providing these services FYTD?	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
233	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - Social media	1. Has there been any changes to department and agency social media or protocols about staff access and usage of Youtube; online social media, such as Facebook, MySpace and Twitter; and access to online discussions forums and blogs since May 2011? Please explain.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
234	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	DSEWPaC - discretionary grants	1. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants for the year 2010-11? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. 2. Could the Department provide a list of all discretionary grants, including ad hoc and one-off grants FYTD? Please provide details of the recipients, the intended use of the grants and what locations have benefited from the grants. 3. Has the Department complied with interim requirements relating to the publication of discretionary grants?	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
235	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - commissioned reports	1. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your portfolio for the year 2010-11? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. a. How much did each report cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? b. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports? 2. How many Reports have been commissioned by the Government in your	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12

Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				portfolio FYTD? Please provide details of each report including date commissioned, date report handed to Government, date of public release, Terms of Reference and Committee members. a. How much did each report cost/or is estimated to cost? How many departmental staff were involved in each report and at what level? b. What is the current status of each report? When is the Government intending to respond to these reports?			
236	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Portfolio wide - carbon price legislation	1. How was your department/agency consulted in the development of the carbon price package? 2. Is the carbon price package consistent with all of the policies in your department/agency	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
237	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Communications	1. How many communications people are there in each of your departments and agencies? List their classification, position description, services they provide to Ministers and/or Parliamentary Secretaries and any guidelines they must adhere to.	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12
238	Corporate: PCD	Rhiannon	Grants made to Forest Wood Products Australia, Planet Ark, National Association of Forest Industries and Australia Forest Products Association	1. What grants or other payments have been made in 2009, 2020 and 2011 to Forest and Wood Products Australia (FWPA), including for The Wood. Naturally Better. <sup>TM</sup> Partner Program, WoodSolutions <sup>TM</sup> or Wood. Naturally Better. <sup>TM</sup> 2. What was the amount and purpose of each payment? 3. What conditions or guidelines were attached to each payment?  1. What grants or other payments have been made in 2009, 2020 and 2011 to Planet Ark including for The Wood. Naturally Better. <sup>TM</sup> Partner Program, WoodSolutions <sup>TM</sup> or Wood. Naturally Better. <sup>TM</sup> 2. What was the amount and purpose of each payment? What conditions or guidelines were attached to each payment?  1. What grants or other payments have been made to the National Association of Forest Industries (NAFI) and its successor, the Australia Forest Products Association (AFPA) in 2009, 2010 and 2011. 2. Under what program was each grant made. 3. What were the conditions or guidelines attached to each grant.	Written	06/12/11	09/02/12
239	Corporate: PCD	Fisher	Travel costs	1. For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately,) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses. 2. For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the	Written	16/12/11	09/02/12



Q No	Program: Division or Agency	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Proof Hansard Page & Hearing Date or Written Q	Date Rec'd	Date Tabled
				<p>Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.</p> <p>3. For the year 2010-11, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.</p> <p>4. For the year 2010-11, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.</p> <p>5. For the FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by your portfolio Minister and Parliamentary Secretaries. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.</p> <p>6. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for any Minister and Parliamentary staff that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.</p> <p>7. For the FYTD, please provide the same information (itemised separately) for Departmental officers that accompanied the Minister and Parliamentary Secretary on their travel and include a similar breakdown of the costs incurred by or on behalf of those staff.</p> <p>8. For the year FYTD, please detail all travel (itemised separately) undertaken by employees of each department and agency within each portfolio. Include details of what the travel was for, what cost was spent on travel (including travel type – i.e. business airfare), accommodation, security, food, beverages (alcohol listed separately), gifts, entertainment, and all other expenses.</p>			