

SENATE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 27-28 MAY 2009

Question No.	ECA Page No & Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Agency/ Division	Program	Date Rec'd
1	10 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Caring for Country – Research funding	<p>Ms Rankin—Probably about \$10 million out of the implementation costs or the administration component of the budget is specifically dedicated to research. We are certainly funding research components of a whole lot of other projects and are receiving applications for research projects, but there is not a specific budget set aside for research beyond that.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Beyond that \$10 million. How does that equate to previous NHT funding that has been allocated for research?</p> <p>Ms Rankin—I would have to take that on notice, sorry.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—If you could, because my recollection is that after a while there was some money allocated to research in NHT and there was the strategic reserve that was allocated. Not all states allocated it. I know that in Western Australia we did and at a national level there was a strategy. Different states called it different things. I cannot remember the dollar value that was on that. If you could take that on notice, that would be appreciated.</p> <p>Ms Rankin—I can do that, yes.</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
2	11 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Sustainable agriculture – approved projects	<p>Senator SIEWERT—I know it will be announced, but could I ask, on notice, that the list of projects approved be provided to the committee?</p> <p>Ms Rankin—That will not be a problem. The list of projects will be published on the website as well under our rules, but we can do that.</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
3	12 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	NHT – Auditor-General arrangements - process arrangements	<p>Ms Kruk—Senator Macdonald, I think we are all conscious of the fact that the Auditor-General was very critical about a whole range of the funding arrangements surrounding the NHT. I think we recognise that there will be process improvements as we go along.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—Can you just remind and give me, perhaps on notice, the reference to the Auditor-General’s concern about the previous arrangements? I am not aware of those.</p> <p>Ms Kruk—Yes, sure. We will do that.</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
4	12 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Caring for Country – Advisory panels	<p>Senator MACDONALD—If you cannot tell us their names, which is just absolutely ridiculous, can you at least tell us where they live?</p> <p>Ms Rankin—I do not have that information with me, Senator.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—Do it on notice...</p> <p>Ms Rankin—In two weeks time we will be able to provide you the full details of all the panel members, because the assessment process will have been completed and recommendations will go to ministers.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—In advising us of the panel members, unless they are obvious, can you also advise us the expertise for which they were put on the panel.</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
5	13 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Funding for NRM groups –	<p>Senator MACDONALD—Perhaps I should have started there. Do you agree with your colleagues in Agriculture that there is to be shortly an advice, whether it is an</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09

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			announcement of funding	<p>announcement or a letter, advising of transitional arrangements from the end of June to when the money starts to flow?</p> <p>Ms Kruk—Yes, that is the case. When Minister Burke and Minister Garrett met with the regional chairs at last week’s ministerial council meeting, both ministers provided that assurance directly to the chairs.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—That they would tell them?</p> <p>Ms Kruk—Yes.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—I am not asking what they are going to tell them.</p> <p>Ms Kruk—We also indicated we cannot give you the exact date that he will tell them. That commitment was made, Senator Macdonald. If that is what you are asking, that commitment was made.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—Is it in the next couple of days? Is it in the next week?</p> <p>Ms Kruk—Minister, I would not be in a position to predict what day the announcement would be made; you would understand that.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—Perhaps Senator Arbib can take that on notice.</p> <p>Ms Kruk—We will, thank you.</p>			
6	13 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Funding for NRM groups - employment	<p>Senator MACDONALD—Do you have numbers of people employed by NRM groups?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Mr Forbes—These are not verified figures; they have just been provided by state and regional organisations. As at October last year, the figure of full-time equivalents of direct employment is 1,785.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—Is that broken up in any way between capital cities and regional areas?</p> <p>Mr Forbes—I do not have that split in front of me.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—You do not have it?</p> <p>Mr Forbes—We could take it on notice, if you prefer.</p> <p>Senator MACDONALD—All right, if you would. There are several groups in Queensland where five or six people are employed in a town of 200 people and it is a very important part of the economy, let alone all the good work they do in natural resource management.</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
7	15 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Carpentaria Ghost Nets program	<p>Senator MACDONALD—I thought that program got direct funding, but is it managed by Northern Gulf, is it? How does it work? I am not just being parochial about this program; it is a world- recognised program involving a lot of Indigenous people.</p> <p>Ms Rankin—I would have to confirm with you who the actual contract is with for the Carpentaria Ghost Nets Program.</p>	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
8	17 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	NRS – Indigenous Protected Areas	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Perhaps if you could come back to me by way of answers to questions on notice with a bit more detail about what the minimum</p>	PAD	1.1	03/08/09

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				standards are for an area to be an Indigenous protected area. Ms Kruk —Sure. If we can pull together a pack of information for you also showing where the Indigenous protected areas are, we will. They are an incredibly significant potential contribution to the National Reserve System, and I think there is quite a bit of information we can provide you directly and also to the committee. Senator BIRMINGHAM —Thank you Ms Kruk.			
9	18 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	National Weeds Significance - funding	Senator MACDONALD —Which was the committee Mr Cotter used to manage? It was a weeds advisory committee. He is the head of AgForce in Queensland. Mr Forbes —Senator, I cannot answer that. I will have to take that on notice. Senator MACDONALD —Could you, because we did not get to this; we talked about weeds in agriculture but we did not get to this. Perhaps, through your involvement, I could get details of what the funding is for the Weeds of National Significance, who runs it, what advisory groups there are and how the decisions are made. We were told in Agriculture estimates about the cutback in funding to weeds research and Defeating the Weed Menace program, which has now terminated and been replaced by something with less money. Again, is that something your department is involved in or is it solely Agriculture? Mr Forbes —It is primarily Agriculture, Senator, but our department has a strong interest because weeds cross boundaries and they are actually also on public lands. Senator MACDONALD —Certainly, it costs Australia over \$4 billion annually and that is just in economic terms, without even contemplating the horrific damage to the ecology and the general environment. If you take those on notice, that would be helpful, thank you.	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
10	Written Qon	Siewert	Australian Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment 2008	1. The Australian Terrestrial Biodiversity Assessment 2008 report has reportedly been submitted to the government, is this correct? 2. If so, why hasn't it been released? 3. When will it be released?	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
11	Written Qon	Birmingham	Caring for Country – funding	1. Given last year's budget papers projected that funding for Caring for our Country would be \$440.1 million in 2009-10, is there \$440.1 million dollars for Caring for our Country allocated for 2009-10 in this year's Budget? If not, why not? 2. Where is this figure in this year's budget papers? 3. How does this compare to funding allocated for 2008-09? Is it more or less? 4. Please provide a breakdown of how this money will be divided between the Natural Heritage Trust, the National Landcare Program, the Environmental Stewardship Program and the Working On Country Program?	AGLC	1.1	03/09/09
12	Written Qon	Birmingham	Caring for	Budget Portfolio Statements (Budget Related Paper No 1.6.) has a table on page 38	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09

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			Country – Budget Statements	that lists the administered expenses for Caring for Our Country in 2009-10 as \$232 million. 1. Is the \$232 million identified on page 38 of the Portfolio Budget Statement as the Caring for our Country administered expenditure the total amount of funding that will be available under Caring for our Country this year? If not, to what does this figure refer?			
13	Written Qon	Birmingham	Caring for Country – Budget Statements	Page 37 of Budget Portfolio Statement states “The reduction in funding primarily relates to the transfer of payments to the states and territories...” 1. Can you please clearly define, in dollars, the reduction in funding? 2. How will this reduction affect grass roots natural resource management groups relying on this funding?	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
14	Written Qon	Birmingham	Caring for Country – Regional bodies	“Under Caring for Our Country, regional bodies will continue to receive guaranteed funding of at least 60 per cent of historical average funding to secure their operations. This funding, \$138 million in 2009-10, will be paid through the States.” 1. What amount, in dollars, is 60 per cent of historical average funding received by regional bodies under Caring for our Country, as per Budget Paper 3? 2. What percentage of historical average funding is \$138 million? 3. Please provide final state allocations of the \$138 million funding distribution or indicate when these amounts will be finalised?	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
15	Written Qon	Birmingham	Caring for Country – Business Plan	1. When will successful projects under the 2009-10 Caring for Our Country Business Plan be announced? 2. When will the 2010-11 Caring for Our Country Business Plan be released? 3. When will funding rounds be opening? 4. What will be the eligibility requirements for this funding? 5. Will there be any changes to the programme guidelines and/or targets? 6. Will there be any scope for local natural resource management groups to determine their own priorities and targets?	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
16	Written Qon	Birmingham	Community Water Grants	What was the budgeted expenditure for Community Water Grants for 2008-09? How much has actually been spent?	AGLC	1.1	30/07/09
17	79 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Cross-subsidising specialist services	Senator BIRMINGHAM —Broadly, that clarifies the issue; thank you. However, to have some clarity around where that will be spent on those other agencies or bodies or on services on behalf those other agencies or bodies, is it possible to break down those figures or to highlight just in a little more detail exactly what the nature of the spend is? Dr Smith —Could I ask for clarification? Are you asking for a description of the services that we provide to aviation and defence or specifically against the additional funding that is identified in the budget? Senator BIRMINGHAM —Ideally, specifically against the additional funding. If that is not possible for some reason then at least an indication of the services and	BOM	1.1	30/07/09

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				<p>their overall value would help.</p> <p>Dr Smith—I certainly cannot provide it in detail. That measure was approved by government and we are sitting down to try to make sure that those funds are appropriated against high-priority tasks. The sorts of areas where that cross-subsidisation was taking place were very broad, so we want to look at and decide our priorities in the light that funding measure. In detail I cannot tell you, but we are also keeping in mind that we want to maintain and, where possible, improve the level of our services and our efficiency. So it gives us an opportunity to look at things in those areas.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Perhaps you could take the detail component on notice and provide what information is possible thereafter; that would be much appreciated.</p>			
18	80 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Strategic Radar enhancement project	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What are the other sites left in the top band?</p> <p>Dr Smith—I think I mentioned them. From memory, there is one in New South Wales. There was the Eyre Peninsula. There were two in Western Australia. That is at least four of them.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Perhaps you could take that on notice and give us the locations or regions involved. That would be helpful.</p>	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
19	80 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Adelaide Advertiser report – Mr Andrew Watson	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—It is reported in today’s <i>Adelaide Advertiser</i>, that esteemed journal of record, that at the South Australian climate forum yesterday the SA Regional Director, Mr Andrew Watson, of—I am taking it to be the bureau?</p> <p>Dr Smith—He is the regional director of the South Australian office.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—He was reported as saying that weather forecasters are finding it more difficult than ever to make accurate predictions because climate change is ‘contaminating and corrupting weather patterns’. Is that a valid statement in the eyes of the bureau overall?</p> <p>Dr Smith—Unfortunately I have not been able to clarify what Mr Watson said...</p> <p>Ms Kruk—It might be better that Dr Smith finds out what his regional manager said.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—I only have a few extracts here. There are the obvious statements: If the climate was static like it was in the first 50 years of this century then we would be in an easier game.</p> <p>If the climate was static it would be an easier game forecasting, I am sure. I do not know whether to say that the climate was static in the first 50 years is accurate. I am not going to go through each quote.</p>	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
20	83 (27/5/09)	Macdonald	Autosondes	<p>Senator MACDONALD—It was reported in late April that the Australian Federation of Air Pilots had expressed their concern at inaccurate weather data coming from those Autosondes, as I understand it. They quoted in the paper that a</p>	BOM	1.1	30/07/09

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				bureau whistleblower revealed that weather watching authorities' automated systems which had been used in Mount Isa, Charleville and Weipa for 11 years was prone to chronic breakdowns experiencing a 40 to 50 per cent failure rate. I am reading from a newspaper. Is that accurate? Would you like your right of reply to that, or did you have a right of reply somewhere? Mr Foley —I do not believe it is accurate but I cannot give you a precise figure on it, so if you would like I could take that on notice.			
21	84 (27/5/09)	Macdonald	Autosondes – accuracy and cost	Senator MACDONALD —Those Autosondes are made in Finland, aren't they, at a cost of \$750,000, I am told? Mr Foley —They are made in Finland. I do not know the cost. ... Senator MACDONALD —Would you say that the suggestion that there is a 40 to 50 per cent failure rate is not correct? Mr Foley —I do not believe so, but I will take it on notice to get you an accurate figure. ... Senator MACDONALD —There was a suggestion that there was a domestically produced alternative available that would cost only about \$150,000 as opposed to \$750,000, which is the suggested cost of the Autosondes. ... I am going to ask on notice perhaps could you just perhaps give me a paragraph or two—I appreciate it is 2007—because I would just like to know whether there was an alternative produced and, if so, why it was not suitable.	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
22	87 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Adelaides weather forecast temperature	Dr Smith —Are you asking whether Adelaide, today, is two degrees warmer than it was 50 years ago, or whether there has been a two degrees temperature rise in Adelaide over that period? I do not know off hand just what the temperature record over 50 years is for Adelaide. I can check if you are interested in Adelaide. Senator BIRMINGHAM —I would appreciate if you could check the detail of these things ...	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
23	88 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Media policy - speeches	Senator BIRMINGHAM —With comments relating to climate change or a speech to a gathering related to climate change, you would expect the speech or comments to be discussed in advance with the bureau's experts on climate change and its impact on forecasting and weather patterns? Dr Smith —I would expect that. Senator BIRMINGHAM —That would be a most reasonable expectation. We do not know whether it did or did not occur in this instance, but certainly if you could check to see if it did occur, that would be appreciated.	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
24	Written Qon	Birmingham	BOM – Specialist	1. How exactly does the Government propose to spend \$16.1 million additional	BOM	1.1	30/07/09

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			services	funding intended to “enable the Bureau to cease the current practice of cross-subsidising specialist services from other services”? 2. When, where and on what will this be spent?			
25	Written Qon	Birmingham	Weather radar locations	The Government will spend \$48 million over seven years for the Bureau to install and maintain four new weather radars at Wollongong, Hobart, Mount Isa and Croker Island/Maningrida. 1. How were the locations for these radars chosen? 2. Will any other weather radars be installed at other locations?	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
26	Written Qon	Bob Brown	Weather stations	1. Does the Bureau of Meteorology have a weather station at Legges Tor (1572m) on Ben Lomond? If not, why not? 2. Does the Bureau of Meteorology have a weather station at Pine Lake (1210m) on the Central Plateau (the highest point of any highway in Tasmania)? If not, why not?	BOM	1.1	30/07/09
27	110 (27/5/09)	Siewert	Christmas Island - rehabilitation	Senator SIEWERT —Are you able to give us an update on the rehabilitation? It is some time since I have asked where the rehabilitation is up to, so I would appreciate an update. ... Mr Cochrane —Yes. Secondary plantings are where we go back after a couple of years when the pioneer species have got to sufficient size and we plant a range of other species which need the shade to keep going. In total that is another 41 hectares all up. Senator SIEWERT —Forty-one hectares all up and what percentage is that? Mr Cochrane —What percentage of the task ahead? Senator SIEWERT —Yes. Mr Cochrane —The task ahead is a matter of judgement because we think a total of a couple of thousand hectares should be rehabilitated. However, there is not enough soil on the island to do that. We are much more likely to be able to rehabilitate perhaps up to 1,000 hectares, but it is dependent on the availability of soil, and that is where it intersects with what the mine does. Senator SIEWERT —You probably can do 1,000 or is that how much you need to do? I misunderstood what you meant there. Mr Cochrane —I would like to take that on notice, so I can give you a precise answer of what we would like to see as the target. Senator SIEWERT —That would be appreciated.	PAD	1.1	30/07/09
28	116 (27/5/09)	Troeth/ Birmingham	Helicopter flights over Kakadu	Senator TROETH —Have any other dignitaries been provided with helicopter flights over Kakadu over the past year? Mr Cochrane —Not to my knowledge, but can I take that on notice? ... Senator BIRMINGHAM —Could you also take on notice any similar types of	PAD	1.1	30/07/09

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				special treatment or experience in other national parks? Mr Cochrane —Sure.			
29	117 (27/5/09)	Macdonald	National Landscapes - expenditure	Mr Cochrane —National Landscapes. Senator MACDONALD —Are there receipts of the expenditure for that program? Mr Cochrane —I do separately identify it. Can I take it on notice? I did not bring those figures with me, but it is identified as an element within my budget.	PAD	1.1	30/07/09
30	120 (27/5/09)	Scullion	Red-footed boobies – North Keeling	Senator SCULLION —... Would you be able to provide me with detailed maps showing where the transects are so we can have the full details? If there were transects there will be maps of transects. We would appreciate any copies of the field notes and also the rationale... Would you be able to provide me on notice with the rationale of the experiment: was it just a nest site survey? ... Are you able to provide that material? Mr Cochrane —Yes.	PAD	1.1	30/07/09 + 3 att'ts
31	120 (27/5/09)	Scullion	Red-footed boobies – North Keeling – survey data	Mr Cochrane —Yes. I have a number of documents which relate to the monitoring program. We have had a number of pieces of advice on ensuring that it is robust and that the population estimates that come from that transect data are reliable and statistically reliable in particular. I am happy to provide an outline of the methodology of the surveys. We have survey data going back to 1986. Surveys were not possible in a few years when because of bad weather we were unable to gain access to the island. We have survey data that goes back to at least 1985 and most years thereafter. I noticed that you asked at the last estimates for the last five years worth of survey data but for some reason it did not end up in the written questions that came to us. Senator SCULLION —I did indeed. You have provided some aspect of that, but could you provide me with copies of the entire reports that were provided?	PAD	1.1	30/07/09 + 5 att'ts
32	121 (27/5/09)	Scullion	Harvesting of red-footed boobies - Community Management plan	Senator SCULLION —I understand, Mr Cochrane, you helped out with the tender process to select the people who would do that. Is that correct? Mr Cochrane —It is, and I think, due to our good nature, we funded it as well. Senator SCULLION —I think that is just terrific. I understand from your answers that the tenders were assessed against criteria outlined in the terms of reference for the consultancy. I will get to the report in a moment. I have not seen the terms of reference for the tender, but you may wish to provide those to me on notice. Was one of the terms of reference or were some of the requirements about a history of providing advice on sustainable use? Mr Cochrane —You are correct—I do not have that information—but I could certainly provide you with the terms of reference.	PAD	1.1	30/07/09
33	122 (27/5/09)	Scullion	Pulu Keeling National Park - patrols	Senator SCULLION —I asked some other questions about the management of Pulu Keeling National Park itself. I note again that in your national park management plan it says, ‘Surveillance and patrols of the marine zone of the park	PAD	1.1	30/07/09

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				<p>will be carried out.' Would you be able to tell me how many patrols of the marine park were carried out this year?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—I would have to take that on notice. I do not have that information with me.</p> <p>Senator SCULLION—Perhaps when you are taking that on notice you could go back for the last five years and tell me how many patrols there were. I would prefer it if you did not come back next time and say, 'Look, I am sorry; other patrols were conducted by the federal police.' I am aware of that. In the spirit of the arrangement, is it possible to reflect that partnership about who does the work for you on the island?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—Yes.</p> <p>Senator SCULLION—The total patrols conducted by yourself under their auspices as well?</p> <p>Mr Cochrane—Yes.</p>			
34	Written Qon	Siewert	National Reserve System - purchases	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What quantum of NRS grants for new protected areas purchases have been contracted in this 08-09 FY? 2. How many hectares of land has or will be purchased with those grants? 3. What proportion of the dollar quantum of grants is for purchases in the high priority less than 2% reserved bioregions identified in Caring for Our Country business plan p45? 4. What proportion of the area of purchases falls in the high priority less than 2% reserved bioregions identified in Caring for Our Country business plan p45? 5. How many purchase contracts been entered into respectively with the State of Queensland, the Northern Territory government or the Government of Western Australia? 	PAD	1.1	30/07/09
35	48 (28/5/09)	Back	Threatened Species Scientific Committee - members	<p>Senator BACK—Can you tell me who members of the committee are? Is that information available?</p> <p>Mr Burnett—Ms Smith may have information. There are about 10 of them, Senator; I cannot remember all their names.</p> <p>Senator BACK—Perhaps I could take it on notice. Could I more particularly ask: would there be anybody on the committee who would be internationally or nationally recognised for having land management or, particularly, fire management skills?</p> <p>Ms Smith—The committee members are all experts in various fields. Across the membership of the committee they have some expertise in these areas. Some of the members of the committee have been heavily involved in fire issues over their time.</p> <p>Senator BACK—Would it be possible, if not here, to take on notice which of those committee members would be recognised by their peers for having expertise or skills in this area?</p>	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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				Ms Smith —Yes, but the process is, as Mr Burnett outlined, that the committee always goes out to expert consultation. They do not have to be experts in every field. They are experts in a number of fields. I do not know whether any of them would claim to be experts in fire, but, as I said, some of them have backgrounds in that.			
36	54 (28/5/09)	Scullion	Cocos Malay community proposal - letter	Senator SCULLION —Would you be able to provide me with that letter on notice? Mr Burnett —Yes. Senator SCULLION —The most recent one. Mr Burnett —We will just need to check with the congress that they are happy for you to have it. It is, in one sense, private correspondence, so it is subject to that.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
37	56 (28/5/09)	Colbeck	Ramsar Wetlands – loggin in Central Murray forest	Senator COLBECK —Were there any forestry methods that were agreed as part of the agreement in 2002? Mr Burnett —I do not even know if there was an agreement in 2002. Senator COLBECK —I am basing it on the information that I have been given that there was. It was included and accepted— Senator Wong —Between whom? Senator COLBECK —If it were under a Ramsar site, it would have to have been the New South Wales government and the Commonwealth government, I would have thought. Senator Wong —Let us stop for a minute there. I do not have any officers at the table telling me that there is such an agreement. I am just concerned about proceeding with subsequent questions on the basis that there was. Ms Kruk —Could we take the exact nature of the agreement on notice? If we could have the benefit of background material, we could check that.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
38	57 (28/5/09)	Colbeck	Ramsar Wetlands – loggin in Central Murray forest	Ms Kruk —If I could assist here, I think both Mr Burnett and Mr Early have indicated that they have now been involved in some quite detailed discussions with New South Wales forests. You are probably aware, or your background material would indicate, that this has been a longstanding matter in New South Wales. This is a matter which I also understand is now in the court between New South Wales and the National Parks Association, and it has as much to do with the compliance or otherwise by state forests in relation to the EIS processes. My understanding—and I am sure Mr Burnett would help me here with the detail—is that the department received an allegation from a party about logging practices. Particular logging works have quite long-term regimes, as you know. You have a belief about some commitment being made between the department—obviously my officers are not aware of that—but the discussions are currently underway between the two agencies. The department was responding to	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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				an allegation vis-à-vis compliance and the change in terms of activity. Senator COLBECK —I am happy to move on. I would ask you to provide us with what information that you have in respect of those particular issues. I would appreciate that. Ms Kruk —I am pleased to do so.			
39	60 (28/5/09)	Colbeck	National Parks Association – Complaint	Mr Burnett —The concern is that clear felling in patches destroys the continuity of the tree canopy and that has a very significant impact on the ecological character of the Ramsar wetland, obviously where it is occurring within the Ramsar wetland, and elsewhere. By disrupting the continuity of the tree canopy it is having a significant impact on the habitat of nationally listed threatened species. Senator COLBECK —Do you have science to back that assertion up? Mr Burnett —Yes. Senator COLBECK —Can you make that science available to the committee? Mr Burnett —It is all in the expert report.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
40	62 (28/5/09)	Colbeck	Ramsar Wetlands – loggin in Central Murray forest	Senator COLBECK —Is there more timber being harvested than there was when the wetland was first nominated—if that is the right term—or ratified? Mr Burnett —That would be our understanding. Senator COLBECK —So, there is more timber being harvested since the ratification of the site as a Ramsar wetland? Mr Burnett —Yes. Senator COLBECK —Is that part of the evidence too? Ms Webb —We have obtained quite a deal of information from Forests NSW, as Mr Burnett previously indicated. We are still trying to work through the actual yield amounts. It is a little hard to say because the Ramsar site does not match up exactly with the forest sites. We could probably take that on notice, but I cannot give you a definitive answer.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
41	64 (28/5/09)	Boswell	Ramsar Wetlands – list of species under threat	Senator BOSWELL —That can be disputed. Mr Burnett, you said before the parrot was not the only reason or the only species that was under threat. What other species are under threat? Mr Burnett —There are about 24 of them. I do not know that I can list them all for you. ... Senator BOSWELL —Are you able to provide us with a copy of that list? Ms Webb —Yes, we can provide that. Mr Burnett —We will take that on notice.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
42	64 (28/5/09)	Boswell	Central Murray forest – superb parrot numbers	Senator BOSWELL —Is the department aware of any study that shows a decrease in population of the superb parrot in the central Murray red gum forests? Mr Burnett —We will take that on notice.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
43	65 (28/5/09)	Boswell	Loggin in Central	Senator BOSWELL —What about the Wilderness Society? Did they also lodge a	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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			Murray forest	complaint to you or was it a joint New South Wales Parks and Wilderness Society complaint? Mr Burnett —We do not think so, but we can take that on notice.			
44	67 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Traveston Dam – public consultation	Senator MACDONALD —Can you advise me or give me any information on what criteria the minister would use to determine whether this 10-day period would be allowed? I would preface your reply by saying that a number of very concerned groups of the community have called upon Minister Garrett to do that, but they indicate to me they are unsure of Minister Garrett’s approach to that. I am just asking if you are aware of what the criteria are that might enable Minister Garrett to do that assessment process. Mr Burnett —I would have to look up the legislation. I am not even sure whether any criteria are prescribed. Senator MACDONALD —You said it has been done occasionally. Mr Burnett —It has been done occasionally, yes. Senator MACDONALD —There must be some sort of criteria mentioned by whoever did it in the past on why they have done it? Mr Burnett —I would have to take it on notice.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
45	71 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited – phone call ref Senate Qon 1226 and 1486	Senator ABETZ —I know that you personally are not responsible for these answers; therefore, I ask you, on notice again, to ask the minister to give us his best estimate as to the duration of that telephone call, please. Senator Wong —I will take on notice that question again.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
46	72 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited – phone call ref Senate Qon 1226	Senator ABETZ —Minister—undoubtedly you will have to take it on notice—why did the minister provide this letter at such a late stage to Mr Burnett for passing on to Gunns? This occurred in circumstances where prior knowledge requiring a statement to the Stock Exchange, which happened later in the day, was a very important element. Giving them, in effect, 15 minutes before the announcement did not give them, I would suggest, sufficient time to make a public statement. I would be interested to know why the minister’s office emailed it to Mr Burnett at only 11.50 that morning and why not earlier to allow the proponent of this proposal more time to be able to respond to the share market. Senator Wong —I will take that on notice. That was a very long series of questions, which contained a number of your assertions. But, as I understand it—just so we can be clear—you want me to take on notice why the department received the letter at around midday. Senator ABETZ —At 11.50 am, we have been told. Senator Wong —Yes. What was the second part of the question? Senator ABETZ —Why was there the delay, given that the minister’s office must have known or been aware that some prior knowledge, other than 15 minutes, would be needed to get a statement out to the Stock Exchange, which was in fact	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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				necessary and done later that day?			
47	72 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited – phone call ref Senate Qon 1226	<p>Senator ABETZ—In answer (8), you will see ‘discussion’ in the fourth line down.</p> <p>Senator Wong—‘Of the discussion’.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes, ‘of the discussion’. I assume that ‘discussion’ relates to each separate discussion and that there was not a conference call that included all the ‘persons’—plural. Could that be clarified for me? Please take on notice that there were a range of separate discussions and that they were not all part of a telephone hook-up. Of course, if they were part of a telephone hook-up, I would be interested to know the details of who the participants were.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will take that on notice.</p>	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
48	73 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited – phone call ref Senate Qon 1226	<p>Senator ABETZ—Perhaps I can put this to you: when I asked specifically about Mr Bob McMahon, because he publicly identified himself as a recipient of the phone call from Mr Garrett, Mr Garrett knew—I was about to say ‘he knew he was fingered’—that the issue was out in the public arena. So, when I asked about Mr Bob McMahon, he was willing to say:</p> <p>The purpose of the Minister’s telephone call was to inform Mr McMahon of his decision in respect of the Gunns pulp mill Environmental Impact Management Plan.</p> <p>He had no problem telling us about that one because he had already been exposed as having rung this man. Given his answer, I now want to know who else he rang in that one-hour period. The minister has identified Mr Bob McMahon; why can’t he identify all the others?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will take the question on notice.</p>	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
49	73 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited – phone call to senators and members	<p>Senator Wong—Why you were not called—do you want that put on notice?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—I put on notice again a request that the minister identify the senators and members that his office rang. It will be interesting to know which senators and members are deemed to have had a particular interest in the pulp mill.</p>	AWD	1.2	18/09/09
50	74 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Senate Qon 1226 – overdue resposne	<p>Senator Wong—I am just making the point that we get a great many questions and we seek to answer them as promptly as possible. Sometimes they are not answered in the time frame sought by the Senate. I make the point that, when I was on that side of the table in the areas of industrial relations and employment, many questions, in fact, remained unanswered, particularly when you had control of the Senate. We are, I think, making a significant effort to respond. I can take on notice—I think the question is—why the answer was in the office for 11 days. Is that right?</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Yes; and why was it not brought up during Senate estimates or why wasn’t I notified that I might be able to have it during the course of the estimates?</p>	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
51	76 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited –	Senator ABETZ —Do you know what? My staff rang Telstra and they told us to	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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			phone call ref Senate Qon 1486	ask, 'Can you advise what telephone calls were made out of Senator Abetz's office between the hours of 11.30 am and 12.30 pm on 5 January 2009?' Within 24 hours, by email, I had the answer. Can the department and the minister's office go back and actually make an effort to provide the information that is sought? We are not being told the names of the people who were rung and now we are being told it would be—what is the term?—'an unreasonable use of resources', when such information was able to be obtained by my office by a single phone call from my office. With the department's resources, I would have thought that might have been achievable. I invite the department to reconsider and to take on notice the possibility of obtaining the times and telephone numbers. The chances are that most of those calls emanating from the minister's office would have had the prefix 0363, 0362 or 0364, going into Tasmania.			
52	76 (28/5/09) 78 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Gunns Limited – phone call ref Senate Qon 1486	Senator ABETZ —...Can I ask: did he ring the National Association of Forest Industries, the Forest Industries Association of Tasmania, the Tasmanian Forest Contractors Association and Timber Communities Australia? I happen to know what the answer is, but I am not in a position to give answers. So I would like to know who the key stakeholders are—and I think we all know. Just out of interest, was the state government considered to be a key stakeholder in this proposal, or were the Greens considered to be a greater stakeholder in this proposal than the state government? ... why did he consider the people that he rang, as he said in the parliament, to be 'key stakeholders' while all the people that he did not ring, including Gunns, clearly were considered to be non-key stakeholders? It would be an interesting exercise for him to provide an explanation as to his definition of 'key stakeholder'.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
53	78 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Hertzfield Report – trigger levels	Mr Burnett —I think he said words to the effect that the draft modules were agreed subject to the outcome of the hydrodynamic modelling. Senator ABETZ —Yes. So we will not be revisiting the trigger levels? Mr Burnett —We will not be revisiting anything that is not affected by the hydrodynamic modelling. Whether that means— Senator ABETZ —Does that include trigger levels? Just say 'yes'. Mr Burnett —I would have to check.	AWD	1.2	03/08/09
54	79 (28/5/09)	Abetz	Bushfire relief concert – Gunns Pulp Mill	Senator ABETZ —I would be obliged if you would ask whether the minister says that he made any comment about the pulp mill at that concert.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
55	81 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Lower lakes – letter for SA Premier	Senator BIRMINGHAM —I might throw some questions on notice around that. Very quickly: did the minister ever receive a reply to the letter that he sent to the South Australian government—I think it was to the Premier—inquiring about an integrated or a more integrated approach for these applications?	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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				<p>Ms Middleton—Yes.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What did that reply say?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Yes, if it is possible. Obviously all of the EISs and those sorts of documents are public documents when they are transmitted.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I can say to you—not in relation to the letter but more broadly—that obviously there is a range of issues in relation to the Lower Lakes and not just in relation to the EPBC issues. I will take that on notice.</p>			
56	Written Qon	Nash	Statement of Reasons – EPBC approval Sugarloaf Pipeline - Foodbowl	From Garrett's Statement of Reasons EPBC Approval Sugarloaf Pipeline <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What provisions has the Minister made to mitigate the acknowledged environmental impacts (net removal of 25 GL of return flow water) of the Foodbowl project? 2. Does the Department accept the removal of return flow to the Murray River as being a legitimate water saving? 3. Is the Foodbowl going to be referred? 	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
57	Written Qon	Nash	Statement of Reasons – EPBC approval Sugarloaf Pipeline - Audit	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. If Victoria fails to demonstrate the availability of water saving through an independent audit by August, will the Commonwealth call the project in? 2. Who is performing the audit? Is this seen as an independent audit process? 3. How much water is currently available for auditing? 	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
58	Written Qon	Nash	Statement of Reasons – EPBC approval Sugarloaf Pipeline – human critical needs	Given there is some doubt whether water for human critical needs will be achieved on the Murray River this year and the recent 1000km Murray toxic algal bloom is the use of the Eildon Water quality reserve as a source of water for Melbourne justified?	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
59	Written Qon	Nash	Statement of Reasons – EPBC approval Sugarloaf Pipeline – Living Murray	Would the water from the Shepparton Modernisation Project and the CG1234 Project be available for contribution to the Living Murray if the Victoria Government did not need it to supply the Melbourne North South Pipeline?	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
60	Written Qon	Birmingham	EPBC ref 2008/4465 – Mr John Duggin	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. With reference to EPBC reference No. 2008/4465 (John Duggin), why has clearing of an area of approximately 137 square metres been declared a controlled action? 2. Has the Government previously approved clearing of any of this land? 3. What contact has the Department had with Mr Duggin both before and after Senate Estimates hearings? 4. Is the Department providing any assistance to Mr Duggin to expedite the consideration of his application? 	AWD	1.2	30/07/09

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				5. How much, if any, land will be cleared as a result of construction of temporary regulators surrounding the Goolwa Channel?			
61	Written Qon	Birmingham	Logging activities – Superb Parrot	<p>With reference to reports that the Minister planned to block logging activities in southern NSW on the basis of concerns about the Superb Parrot:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given that sustainable logging of this Ramsar site was included and accepted at the time it was listed in 2002, what has changed now to give rise to this request that logging activities cease? 2. What scientific information has the Government received to support its decision to restrict logging in the Central and SW Murray? 3. Did the Government ask a Dr Peter Bacon from Woodlots and Wetlands to write the report on which it based its extraordinary decision to restrict logging in the Central Murray? 4. If so, will the Government release Dr Bacon's report and any other information it used to arrive at the decision to restrict logging in the Central Murray? If not, why not? 	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
62	Written Qon	Birmingham	Logging activities – Murray	<p>With reference to the order to cease all logging activities by 31 May, to Minister Garrett's subsequent backdown as outlined in his media release of 12 May, to reports in the <i>Deniliquin Pastoral Times</i> that, following a meeting of Environment Ministers on 21 May, the ban had been lifted and to an ABC local radio news report that "a spokesman for Mr Garrett says there's no plans to abandon the ban":</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What exactly is the situation regarding Federal Government involvement in the management of these forests? 2. Has the 31 May deadline merely been extended? 3. What socio-economic studies were done on the effects of a logging ban on the towns and communities in the mid Murray? 	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
63	Written Qon	Ludlam	Ranger uranium mine - tunnel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The department recently decided that ERA's plan to develop a significant tunnel at the base of the existing Ranger #3 pit did not constitute a controlled action and as such does not require the approval of the federal environment minister. Can you provide a rationale for this decision? 2. In its referral ERA accepts that the proposed tunnel will extend beyond the mines' current operating footprint "to the east, and to the north beneath Magela Creek" (referral p13). Magela Creek is a major part of the World heritage listed Kakadu National Park – how is it reasonable that a 2 to 3 km tunnel under such a feature in Australia's largest national park does not warrant dedicated Commonwealth scrutiny? 3. ERA has stated that workers on the tunnel project will be designated radiation workers and that mineralised ore will be extracted, stockpiled and possibly processed. What conditions has your Department recommended to ensure that ERA's 'exploration' activities remain distinct from the company's current 	AWD	1.2	30/07/09 + 1 att't

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				mining operations? 4. Section 74A of the EPBC Act provides the Minister with the ability to reject a referral that is part of a wider action. Was consideration or advice given or sought by any Commonwealth officer or agency in relation to ERA's tunnel application? If not, why was this not considered an appropriate procedural response?			
64	Written Qon	Ludlam	Ranger uranium mine – Tailings storage facility	ERA has also applied for federal approval to conduct heap leaching and construct a new tailings storage facility at Ranger mine and that the department has designated this as a controlled action. At its AGM in Darwin on April 22 ERA stated that it would be delighted to extend the timeframe for the current lease of the Ranger mine. 1. In this context would it be fair to say that ERA is seeking to significantly expand its operations at Ranger? 2. Given this why did the department not subject the tunnel referral to the same level of scrutiny as the other components of ERA's expansion agenda? 3. What advice has the department provided to the NT regulator to help inform their approach to this issue to ensure that matters of Territory or local significance are adequately addressed?	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
65	65 (27/5/09)	Siewert	Burrup – reports to Minister	Senator SIEWERT —Have you made any reports to the minister about progress? Or is the minister being kept up to date about what the situation is? Mr Burnett —I would have to take that on notice. I just cannot recall whether we have given him a formal briefing. We certainly keep his office apprised of progress in this type of matter, but whether we have actually given him a formal briefing I just cannot recall.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
66	67 (27/5/09)	Siewert	Burrup – other investigations	Senator SIEWERT —Are there any other investigations of anything else on the Burrup? You do not have to tell me what it is. I just want to know if there are any more. Mr Burnett —Not to my knowledge, but I have not checked specifically. Senator SIEWERT —If you could take it on notice and get back to us that would be much appreciated, thank you.	AWD	1.2	30/07/09
67	90 (27/5/09)	Boswell	Marine Protected areas zoning – steering committee	Ms Petrachenko —... As part of the approach, we are also having a steering committee with a reference group of stakeholders who will be involved in that process. Senator BOSWELL —Who is on the reference committee? Ms Petrachenko —I have just sent letters to about 10 different organisations, which include commercial fishers, recreational fishers, the oil and gas industry, tourism and a number of others. Senator BOSWELL —Who are the others? Ms Petrachenko —I can take that on notice and get you the list.	MD	1.2	31/07/09

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				Senator BOSWELL —What environmental groups are on it? Ms Petrachenko —I will take that on notice as well.			
68	90 (27/5/09)	Scullion	Marine Protected area zoning - tenders	Ms Petrachenko —Yes. In fact, we have just gone out to a select tender for expert assistance to develop policy options for going forward as we create marine protected areas in advance of that, which is to look at what the policy options are for any activities displaced by marine protected areas and the zoning they are in. ... Senator SCULLION —I will just go back to the tenders. This is my last question on this particular aspect. I wonder if you could table the tender documents? Is that possible? Ms Petrachenko —Yes.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
69	91 (27/5/09)	Macdonald	Coral Sea – consultation with GBRMPA	Senator MACDONALD —My questions are to GBRMPA on that same issue. Was GBRMPA consulted prior to Minister Garrett’s proclamation of the Coral Sea conservation zone? Dr Reichelt —The authority participates and collaborates with the department. I am sure there would have been informal discussions. The Coral Sea conservation zone is the decision of the minister and outside our jurisdiction. While I can imagine my officers might have been able to contribute some expertise and knowledge of the marine systems, it is not our direct responsibility and we do not have a formal role there. Senator MACDONALD —Perhaps I should be asking the minister: why did Mr Garrett not consult the pre-eminent agency dealing with Coral Sea matters and the Barrier Reef? Senator Arbib —I do not think that it is going to surprise you that I do not have that answer on me, but I am happy to go away and seek advice. Senator MACDONALD —Would the secretary be able to help you? Ms Kruk —No. I would need to take it on advice. A lot of those consultations predate my starting point in the department.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
70	21 (28/5/09)	Boswell	Coral Sea – Consultation with Environmental groups	Senator BOSWELL —What environmental groups have you consulted with? Ms Petrachenko —For the detail on that I will have to take that on notice. It has been a few years in the making, so we have consulted a number of groups, conservation and otherwise. Senator BOSWELL —Did you consult with Pew Charitable Trusts? Ms Petrachenko —We have had meetings with Pew, yes. Senator BOSWELL —You have had meetings with Pew? Who in Pew did you have meetings with? Ms Petrachenko —I will have to take that on notice. Senator BOSWELL —Would it be Ms Zethoven? Ms Petrachenko —Yes, I believe she was involved.	MD	1.2	31/07/09

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71	26 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Coral Sea Conservation Zone	Senator MACDONALD —I am sure you did not follow the fishing industry's proposal. My question, which you might have to take on notice, is: is what Minister Garrett has come up with identical to the Pew submission except that you have allowed the continuation of extractive industries? Ms Petrachenko —I will take that on notice, Senator.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
72	26 (28/5/09)	Birmingham / Boswell	Coral Sea Conservation Zone - maps	Senator BOSWELL —I will ask whether the officer could identify the Pew maps as being the same as her maps. I have tabled the Pew maps. I have asked you to identify whether those maps are identical to yours. ... Senator BIRMINGHAM —It would be easy to clarify, Senator Arbib. Taken on notice, the department will compare the maps provided by Senator Boswell and identify any differences.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
73	28 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Coral Sea – fish taken from Coral Sea	Senator MACDONALD —What other fish are taken from the whole of the Coral Sea, bearing in mind that most of the marlin boats catch marlin and tag and release them and provide the basis for any research that Australia does into marlin? Ms Rishniw —The Coral Sea Fishery is the only Commonwealth fishery that is completely within the Coral Sea. The Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery extends through the Coral Sea and beyond. That fishery takes approximately 6,000 tonnes of fish, and that includes a range including big eye, yellowfin, striped marlin and broadbill. Senator MACDONALD —They are the figures we were given, except they went one step further and said that in the Eastern Tuna and Billfish Fishery, out of the Coral Sea part of it, it was about a thousand tonnes. Ms Rishniw —I would need to take that on notice, Senator. I could not give you the exact figures.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
74	32 (28/5/09)	Macdonald	Coral Sea – consultaion with AFMA	Senator MACDONALD —Did you speak to AFMA as well as the department on the declaration of the zone? Ms Rishniw —Yes, we did. Senator MACDONALD —Long before the announcement? Ms Rishniw —We consulted with a range of portfolio agencies and AFMA as well. Senator, I would have to take on notice the times and the instances on which we consulted, but there was certainly an extensive consultation in December of last year.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
75	33 (28/5/09)	Colbeck	Bioregional planning –	Senator COLBECK —I know you do not have this in front of you, but you have nine months between now and February, which is the period for the draft bioregional plan before the final is released, due in March next year. Prior to that you were looking at something in the order of 15 months. How is that comparing with what is going on with the others? What dates were the south-west, north and north-west ones released? I know they were all released.	MD	1.2	31/07/09

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				<p>Ms Petrachenko—As senators are probably aware, this new approach to bioregional planning started in July three years ago. What we found when we did the south-west that it was more time consuming because it was the first one, basically. If you look at all the profiles, they follow a very similar format. The south-west took much more time than the profiles for the others. We learned from that experience. I can take that on notice and give you the actual dates.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—Please take on notice for me the times that those plans were brought out and the timetables that you have for the next stages in the process for each of those particular plans. If you could also give me any proposed meeting dates that you have set up at this stage so that we can be aware of those, that would be useful.</p>			
76	33 (28/5/09)	Colbeck/ Boswell	Bioregional planning – stakeholder groups	<p>Senator COLBECK—Do you have the stakeholder groups established in each of those regions?</p> <p>Ms Petrachenko—We have. I will let Ms Rishniw answer for those areas.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—If you have those established, just give us the details of the groups involved on those particular steering groups, reference groups or whatever you want to call them.</p> <p>Ms Petrachenko—Okay, thank you.</p> <p>Ms Rishniw—I can give you some detail on the south-west. There was a meeting in Perth the week of 18 May. Thirty two representatives from different stakeholder groups attended that meeting. There is another information session scheduled in Adelaide on 5 June, and we have a range of stakeholder groups represented there as well. That is for the south-west.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—If you could give me detailed information on that, I would appreciate that.</p> <p>Ms Petrachenko—We will do that.</p> <p>Senator COLBECK—And details of the steering groups in those other regions. You might not have them set up yet for the east zone, but I would appreciate that information.</p>	MD	1.2	31/07/09
77	35 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Marine - Expenditure	<p>Senator SIEWERT—What I would really like—and you can take it on notice—is to take out that extra funding for the whaling programs, which we have been through before and look at what the other expenditure is on marine and compare 2008-09 with 2009-10.</p> <p>Mr Thompson—Okay. We will not be able to give you that answer until we have made a decision about the 2009-10 allocation. I can say that for a 2007-08, 2008-09 comparison, if you take out the whale money, it is pretty much stable for marine.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—I appreciate the constraint. If you could tell me, that would be appreciated.</p>	MD	1.2	31/07/09

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				<p>...</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Do you deal with the Great White Shark recovery program?</p> <p>Ms Petrachenko—Yes, Senator. I cannot give you detailed information for marine species in recovery planning for the upcoming financial year. As Mr Thompson indicated, those decisions have not been made yet.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Is it likely that you are going to have enough funding for these recovery programs?</p> <p>Ms Petrachenko—It would be my sincere hope, yes.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Could you take that as part of the question on notice around marine expenditure. I would like the detail around specific recovery plans? That would be appreciated.</p>			
78	38 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Marine Expenditure Whaling envoy – ref Qon above	<p>Senator SIEWERT—When you give me the answer on notice to the marine budget, will there be a notional allocation for that or will that exclude any further potential funding for the envoy?</p> <p>Mr Thompson—I cannot answer that definitively but I can undertake to try and identify whether there is money coming from that budget for the envoy.</p>	MD	1.2	31/07/09
79	38 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Marine - Expenditure	<p>Mr McNee—Regarding the other elements, the government put forward a proposal in relation to conservation management plans within the IWC, trying to promote a greater focus on cetaceans which had an adverse conservation status. Some of the money will be used to drive the policy work on that in the IWC and also to support activities in particular regional areas. A particular area of our interest is what is happening with humpback whales in the Central Pacific area. We would like to see some work done to promote recovery of them. There appears to be a population of humpback whales that do not appear to have recovered in the same way as the Western Australian and eastern Australian coastlines have. The \$3 million also supports our ongoing activities in terms of the reform process of the IWC and has supported our participation in a number of the working groups.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—It seems that you are doing a lot of things with \$3 million, particularly if it is being spent over six years. Is it being divided evenly, half a million a year for the six years?</p> <p>Mr McNee—I do not actually have that breakdown with me. I could get back to you.</p>	MD	1.2	31/07/09
80	40 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Whaling Envoy	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—On the whaling envoy—the on-again, off-again, on-again, off-again process of the whaling envoy that took so long to establish whether or not it was Mr Hollway, after leaks that said it was and denials that it was not and so on—when we last met on 24 February I think there were nine days or thereabouts to go on Mr Hollway’s contract and at that stage the government had not made a decision as to whether to re-appoint Mr Hollway. When was the</p>	MD	1.2	31/07/09

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				decision to re-appoint made? Ms Petrachenko —I will have to take that on notice, Senator. I do not seem to have the exact date that the contract was amended.			
81	42 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Whaling Envoy – overseas travel	Senator BIRMINGHAM —Approximately how many days has Mr Hollway spent overseas? Mr McNee —I would have to take that on notice to be accurate.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
82	43 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Whaling issues – Ministers meetings	Senator BIRMINGHAM —What meetings has the minister held with other countries on whaling issues since last year’s IWC? Ms Petrachenko —I will have to take that on notice, as the minister has met numerous times with various countries concerning whaling issues. I will have to take that on notice. Senator BIRMINGHAM —Has the minister travelled to any other IWC member countries since the last IWC? Ms Petrachenko —I will have to take that notice as well.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
83	Written Qon	Boswell	East Coast Marine Area Committee	1. Was Imogen Zethoven present at an East Coast Marine Area Committee run by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority on the 22/23 April 2009 in Canberra? 2. In what capacity was she present at this Committee?	MD	1.2	31/07/09
84	Written Qon	Siewert	Great white shark recovery plan	Is the Government funding the Great white shark recovery plan?	MD	1.2	31/07/09
85	Written Qon	Birmingham	Whaling Envoy - costs	Please provide finalisation of all costs relating to the appointment, engagement, travel and support services for Australia’s Special Envoy on Whale Conservation this financial year.	MD	1.2	31/07/09
86	Written Qon	Birmingham	Whaling – whales killed by country	How many whales does the Department understand to have been killed by Japan, Norway, Iceland and any other countries in each of the last five financial years?	MD	1.2	31/07/09
87	82 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	REED – flow diagram of programs	Senator BIRMINGHAM —As I said in the introduction, with the renaming, rebadging and establishment of new programs, there is plenty in there to keep us confused. I probably need you to have a white board or a flow diagram for me. Nonetheless we will try to plough on. Mr Carter —We could provide a flow diagram for you. Senator BIRMINGHAM —We will take that one on notice.	REED	2.1	31/07/09
88	83 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Funding expended on promotion of abolished programs	Senator BIRMINGHAM —What funds have been expended in promoting and developing materials and information around the abolished programs? Mr Oxley —We would have to take on notice the specific details around the promotion and communication of existing programs.	REED	2.1	31/07/09
89	87 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Green Loans – funding break down	Senator BIRMINGHAM —To financial year 2011-12, what is the total? Mr Keeffe —It is \$143,843,192. Senator BIRMINGHAM —That is quite precise. You said there is about \$14	REED	2.1	31/07/09

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				<p>million in department expenses. Mr Keeffe—That is correct, and roughly \$130 million administered. Senator BIRMINGHAM—Are we able to break down those administered expenses into what you are budgeting for assessment costs versus bank costs? Mr Carter—We would have that breakdown, but I am not sure that we have it with us. We can take that on notice. Senator BIRMINGHAM—Could you come back and provide that? If we are taking that on notice, then provide that for a year-by-year perspective as well, which would be most helpful.</p>			
90	87 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Green Loan – Consultation with Treasury and Finance and Administration	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—It seems unusual that you would not consult with Finance, particularly, in something that is quite an innovative program, as Mr Carter indicated earlier. This is the first time that the department of environment has been involved in going out and subsidising banks as lenders to individuals. Why would you not consult Treasury or, particularly, Finance? Mr Keeffe—We certainly discussed with Finance the configuration of the program and in terms of the refocusing and reshaping, Finance were actively engaged in that. There was also discussion on the shape of the loans and the average of the loans, in terms of negotiating the rate that that was at. I know of no formal discussions with Finance and Treasury, but I am willing to take that on notice because a lot of this happened before I was engaged in the program.</p>	REED	2.1	31/07/09
91	88 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Green Loans – CO2 or greenhouse gas savings	<p>Mr Carter—The estimate of abatement that I have got here—and I will have to check on it—is 0.33 megatonne CO2 equivalent by 2020 of additional annual abatement. ... Senator BIRMINGHAM—Why is the figure by 2020? Mr Carter—I would have to take the detail of that on notice. ... Senator BIRMINGHAM—If you could come back to me and tell me why 2020, in this instance, is the magical number for a program that runs for five years, that would be much appreciated.</p>	REED	2.1	31/07/09
92	89 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Green Loans – CO2 or greenhouse gas savings	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—That is fine. I appreciate that it is not an unusual benchmark to be talked about. However, for a program that is expiring sooner, I would have thought that, in looking at the targets, I would like to get at least a rationale behind that, and also just to ensure that we are comparing apples with apples as to what the previous program was saving. With respect to the assumptions built into the savings that you are now suggesting, Mr Carter, of 0.33 megatonnes by 2020, is that purely generated from the loans or are those assumptions and that total built up by the assessments that have been provided and possible take-ups of other programs?</p>	REED	2.1	31/07/09

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				Mr Carter —I would have to take that on notice. I am not sure if that was taking into account any of the behaviour changes.			
93	91 (28/5/09)	Milne	Solar systems – total funding	Senator MILNE —I would like to go to solar systems. You may need to take this on notice. I would be very interested to know, under all particular programs, what the total federal government funding for solar systems has been through the rural and remote program, plus R&D, commercialisation funds and so on. Would you be able to provide, on notice, an aggregate figure for the level of Commonwealth support for solar systems? Mr Young —Certainly. We will take that on notice and consult with our colleagues in other departments who have also supported that company.	REED	2.1	31/07/09
94	Written Qon	Birmingham	Advertising – Energy Efficiency package	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the “\$20 million for a business information package to provide advice to businesses on how the scheme will work and the impacts and opportunities that may arise” in addition to the \$51 million for a media campaign? 2. When, where and on what will this money be spent? 3. What other money is being spent on advertising/media campaigns of “business information” for this energy efficiency program? 4. How many one kilowatt solar panels do you estimate could be purchased with this advertising money? 5. How many houses could receive insulation fitted with this amount of advertising money? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
95	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans - funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When and why did the government decide to cut \$125 million from the Green Loans program? 2. Has the government secured firm commitments from banks or other funds suppliers for the full amount of the program – now \$175 million? If so, please identify them and the terms of credit arrangements. 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
96	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans – interest free loans	The Government has promised that the first four years of repayments for the Green Loans will now be interest-free. How much, in dollar terms, would that actually save a household, given the current low rates?	REED	2.1	31/07/09
97	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans – emissions savings	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much did the Government originally promise that the Green Loans would save in terms of emissions? 2. Given that the program has been cut from 200,000 households to 75,000 households, what figure is the Green Loans program now expected to save in terms of emissions? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
98	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans – advertising	What advertising, and at what cost, is proposed for the Green Loans program?	REED	2.1	31/07/09
99	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans – take up	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. On what basis does the Government think it will actually find 75,000 households to take out loans, especially given that it is now almost giving away pink batts to almost anyone who wants them? 2. Has Treasury been consulted on whether the figures stack up? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09

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100	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans – administration	Please provide a breakdown of the departmental resources (staff and financial expenditure) provided to the administration and running of the program for the current financial year?	REED	2.1	31/07/09
101	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans - applications	Given that the Program was announced in May 2008, and Green Loans were to be available by early 2009, how many applications have actually been received, processed, approved and rejected? If none, why has there been a delay in rolling out the Green Loans program?	REED	2.1	31/07/09
102	Written Qon	Birmingham	Green Loans – green inspired investment	With reference to the Minister’s media release of 13 May 2008 which reads, in part, <i>“The investment the Rudd Labor Government is making today will also generate up to \$2.0 billion worth of green inspired investment in our economy, and benefit the small business sector.”</i> - <ol style="list-style-type: none"> As the Green Loans Program has been running six months behind time, would you agree that it is highly unlikely the announcement of 13 May 2008 has generated \$2 billion worth of green inspired investment in our economy? What estimate of investment does the Government now believe to have occurred? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
103	Written Qon	Birmingham	Solar Schools – panels installed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many schools have now had solar panels installed (as distinct from registering) under the National Solar Schools Program? Please detail, by electorate, which schools, when the solar panels were installed and the cost. Why is the number of schools receiving solar panels still so low, given there are approximately 10,000 schools across Australia? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
104	Written Qon	Birmingham	Solar Schools – State authorities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> What problems are being experienced with State authorities in relation to this program? What action has the Minister personally undertaken to fast-track in response to these delays? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
105	Written Qon	Birmingham	Solar Schools – Renewable Energy Certificates	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Has a decision been made about who is to receive the Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs) – i.e. will the value of these go to the school or to the State Government? What is the total value of these RECs, broken down by state? What has been the attitude of the State Government authorities to the RECs? Have they been part of the bargaining process? Does this continue to be a source of dispute? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
106	Written Qon	Birmingham	Solar Homes - applications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> How long is it now taking to process applications for solar rebates of up to \$8000 under the Solar Homes and Communities Plan? What is the longest it has taken to process one of these applications and why? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
107	Written Qon	Birmingham	Solar Homes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> What is the cost of the program for this financial year? How many applications have been paid? Has the Department ever provided advice to the Minister’s office on the merits 	REED	2.1	31/07/09

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				of imposing the means test on the \$8000 rebate?			
108	Written Qon	Birmingham	Solar Homes - applications	Please detail, month by month, applications received, applications approved and grants actually paid under the Solar Homes and Communities Plan since 1 January 2008.	REED	2.1	31/07/09
109	Written Qon	Birmingham	Programs – existing and announced	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What programs pursuing energy efficiency, water capture, re-use of efficiency, building regulation reporting and retro-fit uptake in solar technologies was: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Existing at the time the Rudd government took office in Nov 2007 (b) In place or announced in last year’s Budget, and (c) In place or announced on 2009-10 Federal Budget. 2. How have the objectives and activities of discontinued programmes as a result of the 2008-09 and 2009-10 federal budgets have been carried forward in subsequent, replaced or enhanced programmes? 3. Will the Department in table form: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) Provide a detailed account of how the above activities, initiatives and programmes that have been discontinued, have been included in, or carried forward within subsequent programmes (b) Provide a detailed account of programs that have been discontinued and funding has not been carried forward in some way, and (c) Provide a detailed account of the abandoned objectives and activity and financial value of savings to the Commonwealth. 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
110	Written Qon	Birmingham	Action on Energy Efficiency - administration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What financial costs were incurred to develop, resource and promote the Action on Energy Efficiency Program? 2. How many departmental staff were involved with the running and administration of the program? 3. What funding has been provided through this program? How many applications did this funding program attract? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
111	Written Qon	Birmingham	Action on Energy Efficiency - administration	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How are the replacement programs different from the Action on Energy Efficiency Program, and what elements of the terminated program, staffing and public policy research and development will be embraced in the replacement program? 2. With the program being replaced by at least six other programs, where is the \$25.8 million of savings coming from? 3. What is the direct translation of the terminating program elements, policy objectives and resources into the replacement programs? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
112	Written Qon	Birmingham	Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What financial costs were incurred to develop, resource and promote the Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances Program, 2. How many departmental staff were involved with the running and administration of the program? 3. How much funding has been provided through this program? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09

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				4. How many applications did this funding program attract?			
113	Written Qon	Birmingham	Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How is the replacement program different from the Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances Program and what elements of the terminated program, staffing and public policy research and development will be embraced in the replacement program? 2. What is the direct translation of the terminating program elements, policy objectives and resources into the replacement programs? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
114	Written Qon	Birmingham	Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances program	<p>In his media release of 13 May 2008 the Minister said over the next four years the Energy Efficiency of Electrical Appliances Program would 'help reduce greenhouse gas emissions'.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much greenhouse gas emissions have been reduced under the scheme to date? 2. How much domestic energy use has been reduced due to this current scheme? 3. By how much are greenhouse gas emissions likely to be reduced under the scheme before it is terminated at the end of this financial year? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
115	Written Qon	Birmingham	Hot Water system phase out	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much Departmental resourcing was provided to implement, run and administer the Hot Water System Phase Out Program? 2. Were extra staff employed by the Department to administer this program? 3. Who from the Department was tasked with running the program? 4. What financial assistance was provided to promote this program and how was it promoted? 5. What was the uptake of this program? 6. What were the actual financial costs incurred by the Department to develop, resource and promote the Hot Water Systems Phase Out Program, and how many departmental staff were involved with the running and administration of the program? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
116	Written Qon	Birmingham	Hot Water system phase out	How much funding and assistance has been provided through this program? How many applications did this funding program attract?	REED	2.1	31/07/09
117	Written Qon	Birmingham	Hot Water system phase out	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How is the replacement Energy Efficiency Labelling – Enhancement Measure different from the energy Hot Water Systems Phase Out Program, and what elements of the terminated program, staffing and public policy research and development will be embraced in the replacement program? 2. What is the direct translation of the terminating program elements, policy objectives and resources into the replacement programs? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
118	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Energy Efficiency Initiative – implementation study	<p>Given the National Energy Efficiency Initiative is subject to an implementation study,</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the time frames for the implementation study? 2. When is the study expected to commence? 3. Who will be involved in carrying out the implementation study? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09

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				4. What financial and other resourcing will be provided to implement the study?			
119	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Energy Efficiency Initiative – grants	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What will be the eligibility criteria for this \$100 million grant? 2. How will the grant applications be accessed and who will access the applications? 3. What environmental regulations will have to be met for the successful grant applicant to receive funding through this program? 4. How will the emissions that will be produced during the construction of the successful project be offset to ensure the successful project is carbon neutral? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
120	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Strategy on Energy Efficiency	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency streamline the ‘Australian Government’s climate change programs and making energy efficient choices even easier’, when the programs being replaced are in existence and operating? 2. When will the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency come ‘online’? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
121	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Strategy on Energy Efficiency – media release	<p>With reference to the Minister’s media release of 12 May 2009 “Streamlining the Australian Government’s climate change programs and making energy efficient choices even easier”:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many of these measures are actually new and how many of these measures are initiatives that have been previously announced, terminated and simply repackaged and branded Budget 2009-10? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
122	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Strategy on Energy Efficiency – regulatory Impact Analysis	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Given various elements of measures in the National Strategy on Energy Efficiency are subject to a Regulatory Impact Analysis, when and by whom will this Regulatory Impact Analysis be undertaken? 2. If the Regulatory Impact Analysis delivers an unfavourable report, will the programs that have been re-packaged to form this strategy be re-formed in their previous state? 	REED	2.1	31/07/09
123	Written Qon	Bernardi	National container deposit scheme	<p>After the Environment Protection and Heritage Council (EPHC) meeting, Carmel Tebbutt said there would be modelling done to gain a ‘better understanding of the community’s willingness to pay and how much they are willing to pay’ for a container deposit scheme. (Peter Garrett & Carmel Tebbutt, 2009, Transcript, 22 May)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. When will this modelling be completed? 	EQD	2.2	31/07/09
124	Written Qon	Bernardi	National container deposit scheme	<p>Despite the 205-page report from the EPHC Beverage Container Working Group, which was presented to the Council last week, more modelling is apparently required (despite the fact that Clean Up Australia has done research which shows 88 per cent of Australians support the introduction of a 10c refund on drink cans and bottles). (EPHC, 2009, ‘18th Meeting of EPHC Communique’, 22 May and Ben Cubby, 2009, ‘\$35 waste tax to keep old TVs out of landfill’, Sydney Morning Herald, 23 May, p.4)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are you expecting to find? Are the results of the report guaranteed to be 	EQD	2.2	31/07/09

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				<p>acted on in the way the report instructs?</p> <p>2. Why is further modelling required?</p> <p>3. Has the Department or the Minister met with any companies from the drinks/beverage or grocery industries regarding a national container deposit scheme? If so, please detail the dates and duration and frequency of these meetings.</p> <p>4. In SA, it has been proved that there is a huge reduction in the amount of beverage-related litter in comparison with other states. Will SA serve as a model example for a nationwide scheme?</p>			
125	73 (27/5/09)	Wortley/Bilyk	AAD – budget spent in TAS	<p>Senator WORTLEY—Senator Bilyk has also asked me to ask you whether you are able to give a breakdown of the various areas and tell us how broad the geographical area covering these people is. She says that the employment is not just in science and research but also in other areas. I am happy for you to take that on notice.</p> <p>Dr Wooding—We will do what we can. Some of those figures come from the state government. We will see what we can find out for you.</p>	AAD	3.1	31/07/09
126	78 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Antarctic tourism operations	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—You have mentioned new tourism agreements. Do all countries that currently have tourism operations to Antarctica participate in the convention and are they parties to the treaty?</p> <p>Ms Maddock—Can I take that on notice? My understanding is ‘yes’ but I am not sure completely, so I will take it on notice. Certainly all the major ones were there and took part—that is, the US; the Latin Americans; Canada, as an observer; and most of the Europeans and South Africans. For all of the ports from which they would leave the answer is certainly yes, but I will just assure myself on the question of whether those currently undertaking tourist activities in the Antarctic are all treaty members.</p>	AAD	3.1	31/07/09
127	Written Qon	Siewert	Albatross during Antarctic session - Macquarie Island	<p>Previously the Government allocated \$240,000/year for albatross assessment & recovery plan</p> <p>1. Could the Government explain why there are no funds allocated to monitor Albatrosses as part of the feral eradication program on Macquarie Island?</p> <p>2. How will you know if its working?</p>	AAD	3.1	31/07/09
128	69 (27/5/09)	Bob Brown	World Heritage nomination - Antarctic	<p>Senator BOB BROWN—Is there anything that you are aware of in the World Heritage Convention or elsewhere that would prevent the Antarctic Treaty Organisation from promulgating a nomination?</p> <p>Mr Shevlin—I would honestly have to take that one on notice.</p> <p>Senator BOB BROWN—Would you do so. Is there any evidence at all that any Antarctic treaty organisation has or would move to block a World Heritage nomination for Antarctica?</p> <p>Ms Kruk—We will take that on notice.</p>	AAD	3.1	31/07/09

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129	97 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Basin Plan – gaps analysis	<p>Senator SIEWERT—Have you done a gap analysis of the data that is missing?</p> <p>Mr Freeman—I would have to ask the executive director. We have been working through at the highest level and identifying what is there. I guess, by default, that is probably a gap analysis. The difficulty here is the complexity of the ecosystems and ecosystem services. There is knowledge around environmental assets, but how do they function? How will they function with more water or less water? That knowledge just has not been captured in the past. It is not so much about the ecological values. The ecological values are captured at some scale. The issue is understanding these dynamic systems. That knowledge is what is a challenge to all of us.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—That is why I am asking. I understand the data is not there. Could you take on notice to look at whether there has been a gaps analysis, and also could you provide information about the science that you are undertaking and the timelines for that—that is, the new projects that are being undertaken as part of the plan.</p> <p>Mr Freeman—I am happy to do that, yes.</p>	MDBA	4.1	09/09/09
130	99 (28/5/09)	Heffernan	Water flow – Murray and Goulburn systems	<p>Senator HEFFERNAN—Can you give us an indication of what your figures are for the flow in, say, the Murray and the Goulburn?</p> <p>Senator Wong—For a year made up of the worst inflows for every single month?</p> <p>Senator HEFFERNAN—Yes.</p> <p>Senator Wong—We could do that. We would have to take that on notice.</p>	MDBA	4.1	13/08/09
131	101 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Living Murray initiative – state targets	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Can you take me through how the states have progressed in meeting their individual targets?</p> <p>Mr Freeman—It is quite a detailed response...I could probably give you a better break-up if I took it on notice.</p>	MDBA	4.1	13/08/09
132	109 (28/5/09)	Fisher	Basin plan - consultation	<p>Senator FISHER—To the extent that you have undertaken some of the process in respect of the schedule under section 135 of the act and to the extent that you have undertaken some work in respect of further defining critical human needs under section 86A, with whom have you been consulting in those two areas and with whom else do you plan to consult?</p> <p>Senator Wong—The second question goes precisely to the issue I raised.</p> <p>Senator FISHER—With whom have you consulted, Mr Freeman?</p> <p>Senator Wong—I have not personally consulted with anyone. I can ask if any of the officers behind me know, or take it on notice.</p>	MDBA	4.1	13/08/09
133	Written Qon	Birmingham	MDBA - Budget	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the total budget for the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA)? 2. Has the MDBA been asked to take a funding cut or efficiency dividend? 	MDBA	4.1	13/08/09
134	Written Qon	Birmingham	MDBA – Staffing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many staff are to be employed by the MDBA? 2. How many vacancies remain unfilled? What positions are these? 	MDBA	4.1	13/08/09
135	Written Qon	Williams	Basin Plan –	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How will the Basin plan, expected to be released in draft form mid next, 	MDBA	4.1	

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			agricultural production	balance the Government's requirement for the removal of agricultural production water with retaining regional jobs? 2. How will the removal of water be spread sensibly as well as equitably amongst the basin catchment?			
136	115 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	National Water Initiative - pricing	Ms Olsson —There was some work done through what was then the National Water Initiative committee, which has now moved under the NRMCM COAG water processes. It is slightly complicated. There were some principles developed and we are no longer running that process. I think those questions are better directed to the department at this point as to where those principles would be up to. In terms of assessment of state progress in implementing the NWI commitments, we are currently undertaking our second biennial assessment of progress with those matters and we are expecting to deliver that to COAG in August of this year. We will be having a comprehensive look at the pricing commitments and progress towards those at that time. Senator BIRMINGHAM —Will that report go to COAG this year? Ms Olsson —Yes, that is correct. Senator BIRMINGHAM —We can pursue pricing there. Will that report be public? Senator Wong —That will be a matter for first ministers. Senator BIRMINGHAM —That will be a matter for COAG? Senator Wong —I assume so. If that is incorrect we will get you further information. If it is a COAG report that is not a matter Ms Olsson determines. Senator BIRMINGHAM —If you could confirm that. It becomes hard for us to assess the progress of states if those things are not public.	NWC	4.1	13/08/09
137	116 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	National Urban Water – Desalination plant	Senator BIRMINGHAM —Did the commission have any say in terms of the development of the government's guidelines for their national urban water and desalination plant. Were you consulted at all? Ms Olsson —Not that I am aware of, Senator, but if that is not correct I will correct it. Senator BIRMINGHAM —We can ask the department later unless the minister knows for sure either way. Senator Wong —No, I would have to take advice on that. Dr Horne —Senator Birmingham, we will take it on notice. If we can answer it during the course of this meeting we will do so.	NWC	4.1	
138	117 (28/5/09)	Fisher	Stormwater pipes – breaking pipes	Senator FISHER —I am simply asking whether the commission has done any studies on stormwater pipes, and in particular the impact of breaking stormwater pipes, the impact of age on stormwater pipes, whether those pipes break, perhaps the impact of lack of water use on the retention capacity of pipes that are getting old, of soils that are cracking around them and of the impact of backyard water	NWC	4.1	04/09/09

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				restrictions which arguably result in surges through ageing pipes that have not been experienced prior to the time of water restrictions. Ms Olsson —Senator, the only piece of work that I can think of which might be relevant is the performance report that we prepare on the service standards of urban water utilities. I cannot recall, though, whether it specifically goes to the issue of stormwater pipe breakages, but I am happy to take that question on notice.			
139	107 (28/5/09)	Xenophon	Condamine-Balonne - licences	Senator XENOPHON —Further to the line of questioning asked by Senator Heffernan, has the department or the authority considered the nature and extent of the legal rights in respect of the Queensland authorisations or rights as to whether they could be subject to challenge or be circumscribed? Senator Wong —I have considered this issue. I would prefer to take that question on notice. Because it does deal with a number of legal rights issues, I do not want to answer and get something wrong.	WED	4.1	13/08/09
140	118 (28/5/09)	Nash	Twynam purchase - licences	Senator NASH —So now many does that add up to? Sorry to ask you to have to do that. Ms Harwood —The precise number of actual licences entitlements I will take on notice because I have not brought that with me. I have brought the summary bringing it up to security classes and river systems. Senator NASH —Great. In terms of the value, can you just explain to the committee how you arrived at a value? Was each done separately? Ms Harwood —Essentially, sort of top down and bottom up. That is, we used our benchmark prices that we have for assessing tenders under the water buyback tender. For some elements of the offer we also got independent valuations where we did not have a large amount of market information to assist us in the evaluation. Senator NASH —Who gave those to you? Ms Harwood —I will take that on notice. I did not bring those valuations with me. We got independent valuations, then we looked at the entitlements overall... Senator NASH —Just against all of those, over the last 12 months, what allocations were actually placed against any of those licences? Senator Wong —We can give you the annual average, isn't it? Average annual allocation. I wonder if we could take the detail of the precise allocation to date on notice.	WED	4.1	13/08/09
141	122 (28/5/09)	Nash	Water Purchases	Senator NASH —So all up it is 240 gigalitres for this. Am I right? And the 57 brings the purchase to a total of 297? Ms Harwood —Yes. Senator NASH —Is all of that in New South Wales? Senator Wong —No. Senator NASH —Can I just have the breakdown of figures of that 297 across the different states?	WED	4.1	13/08/09

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				<p>Ms Harwood—No, I do not—</p> <p>Senator Wong—We can provide that on notice. It is probably all on the website, but we will provide it on notice.</p>			
142	126 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Twynam – legal advice	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—As to the second part of your question, which the minister answered first about the legal challenge, Minister, have you or the department sought advice from the Australian Government Solicitor or Attorney-General’s elsewhere in relation to that?</p> <p>Senator Wong—We do not comment on legal advice, Senator.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—I am not asking what the advice is and I am not asking about advice; I am purely asking whether you have sought any.</p> <p>Senator Wong—I will take that on notice.</p>	WED	4.1	13/08/09
143	128 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Water Purchases - licences	<p>Senator SIEWERT—Can I ask you—and I do not know if that is what you are doing in response to the question that Senator Xenophon asked—of the water that has been purchased, are you able to provide us with a breakdown of what is high security and what is general?</p> <p>Dr Horne—Senator, perhaps we can take that on notice.</p>	WED	4.1	13/08/09
144	128 (28/5/09)	Siewert	Water purchases – caps met in VIC	<p>Senator SIEWERT—I know I have asked this at every estimates for a little while—and I am happy for it to be on notice—but can you give us an update of the districts in Victoria that have now met their cap for the year, where you may have made a purchase and where you have not been able to?</p> <p>Ms Harwood—Yes, we can. It was 10 last time we spoke; I think it may be more now.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—That is why I am after the update. That would be appreciated. What are the potential purchases that you have not been able to make and the amount of water involved in those purchases?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator Wong—There are two components that you just described in your question, Senator. The first was: in which district do we understand the cap to have been hit?</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—Yes.</p> <p>Senator Wong—The second was essentially: how much water then can you not buy? I am not sure about what we could give on the second, because I am not sure what we would hold and what relevance it has if irrigators are unable to sell that, but I will see what we can provide on this.</p> <p>Senator SIEWERT—The relevance is, and you will be aware, and I am not necessarily—</p> <p>Senator Wong—No, I understand the political relevance, but I am saying that I am not sure what information we have, and also, once the cap has been hit, whether it is appropriate for us to provide information about an irrigator who might have</p>	WED	4.1	09/09/09

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				wanted to sell who then made a decision not to sell because she or he could not sell. Do you see what I am saying? I think I understand the tenor of the question. If we can take it on notice, we will provide you with what information we are able to.			
145	135 (28/5/09)	Heffernan	Twynam - Lachlan - Wetlands breakup	Senator HEFFERNAN —What will be the break-up between the wetlands, which are the proper wetlands in the terminal end of the creek in places like Juanbung, which by the way is a Twynam property, and the creek system at Booligal? Is there a plan for the break-up? Senator Wong —We will have to take that on notice. ... Senator HEFFERNAN —Could you, on notice, take the question of how the break up of the 50,000 megalitres on the Lachlan will be distributed? CHAIR —It is on notice.	WED	4.1	13/08/09
146	137 (28/5/09)	Xenophon	Menindee Lakes – water savings	Senator XENOPHON —Just a couple. Ms Harwood, you mentioned earlier that \$1.6 million has been spent on the Menindee Lakes. I appreciate that it is principally a New South Wales government project with Commonwealth funding. I remember asking some questions about this a few months ago. Can you take on notice the progress of that and what the likely water savings will be in relation to evaporation and whether the project also considers the feasibility of alternative water storages for Broken Hill other than the Menindee Lakes, because that is, I think, a key issue for— Senator Wong —Yes. I can tell you that it does, but we are happy to take it on notice and provide you with that information.	WED	4.1	13/08/09
147	137 (28/5/09)	Xenophon	Food Bowl Modernisation Project	Senator XENOPHON —In relation to that and the north-south pipeline, can you advise—again, perhaps, on notice—what the extent of the due diligence assessment is and will it be independently assessed. Senator Wong —The north-south line pipeline is not subject to Commonwealth due diligence assessment because we did not fund it. Senator XENOPHON —But in relation to the Food Bowl Modernisation Project? Senator Wong —For stage 2, we can probably give you broad information about how we would approach due diligence there. ... Senator XENOPHON —And to what extent there would be an independent assessment as part of the due diligence process? Ms Harwood —Yes. Senator Wong —But that is a level of detail that, in the absence of a project coming forward, I am not sure we could provide. Why don't we have a look at it and see what we can give you? Senator XENOPHON —Sure. In relation to that, in the event that the project does come forward, would it, as a matter of course, include an assessment by an	WED	4.1	13/08/09

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				independent third party of the robustness of the project that is being proposed by the Victorian government? Senator Wong —I see. Can we take that on notice and we will			
148	Written Qon	Hanson-Young	Water for the Future p.207&208 Budget Paper No.2 - Twynam	Given the Government has committed \$303m to water buybacks from the Twynam Agriculture Group, is there any money that will be left for future buybacks?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
149	Written Qon	Nash	Southern Basin VIC – on-farm funding,	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Has Victoria been promised a set amount of the \$300m Southern Basin on-farm funding? Or a fixed percentage? 2. How many Victorian entitlements (by volume and value) failed due diligence in through the purchasing program on the basis of their trade barriers (either 4 or 10 per cent)? 3. What percentage of the \$300m on farm fund will be spent on farm compared to Departmental management? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
150	Written Qon	Nash	NSW Priority Projects	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What value of on farm funds under the COAG priority projects have been spent in 08/09 in NSW (the answer is zero)? What value for this program has been dedicated to 09/10 and years in the forward estimates? 2. What value of the COAG priority on farm projects will end up on farm? What value have you allowed NSW to claim as operating expenses at a Departmental level? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
151	Written Qon	Nash	Water Market rules and regulations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What does the Department belief is effective consultation with the irrigation industry in terms of setting water market rules and regulations? 2. Does the Department recognise that the irrigation industry is nervous about the level of consultation that will be offered to them in, amongst other policy changes, developing the Basin Plan? 3. Does the Department believe that the consultation process used by the ACCC has been adequate and effective? 4. Does the Department agree that draft rules are not, by definition, the final version of a legislative instrument but are subject not only to consultation but also to Ministerial Approval and, indeed, the approval of the Parliament? 5. Is the Department aware that the ACCC have given advice to irrigation infrastructure operators that they will not be able to pay dividends to shareholders pursuant to their Rules in clear contradiction to the very concept of consultation? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
152	Written Qon	Nash	Water buybacks	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In terms of both megalitres of water and dollar values, how much water by state has the Commonwealth spent in buying water entitlements? 2. Do those figures include the purchase of 240,000 megalitres of water from the Twynam Group in NSW? 	WED	4.1	09/09/09

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				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Did the Government undertake a social or economic impact process prior to removing this water and its economic and social benefit from regional communities in NSW? 4. Can the Minister confirm that every major purchase in your buyback process – Toorale, Tandou and now Twynam – has been in the State of NSW? 5. Will the Department give an undertaking to the rural and regional communities of NSW that this state has now made its contribution and no more water will be removed from it? 			
153	Written Qon	Nash	Water buybacks - Twynam	Did the Department seek assurances from Twynam that the \$303 million will be spent in and on their operations in Australia, or will they be free to use that money on their operations overseas?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
154	Written Qon	Nash	Water purchases - Twynam	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Outline the process that was followed for the purchase of Twynum. 2. How was the value of the property determined? 3. How many licenses did this include? Break up per property. 4. What allocation had these properties received over the previous 3 years? Break up per property. 	WED	4.1	09/09/09
155	Written Qon	Nash	Water purchases – Twynam – Consultation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What consultation took place with the local communities affected by this sale? 2. Where the various communities affected by the sale aware of the possibility of the sale? 3. Has the Minister or anyone from the Department visited the various properties or surrounding communities affected by the sale? 4. How many people does Twynum employ and how many will be affected by the sale? 	WED	4.1	09/09/09
156	Written Qon	Nash	Water purchases – Twynam – land and agriculture	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Was any land purchased as part of the sale? 2. What agriculture will be lost as a result of this sale? 3. Will agricultural production levels remain the same? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
157	Written Qon	Nash	Water purchases – Twynam purchase	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. At the time of the sale how much total actual water was available – break down per property. 2. What percentage of Twynum's total water allocation was purchased? 3. What will happen to the water infrastructure on the various properties? 4. How much water does the government expect this purchase to return to the river for environmental purposes? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
158	Written Qon	Siewert	Southern and Northern Water Tenders - criteria	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much does the Department anticipate investing in each of the Southern and Northern tenders by the time all the sales have been completed for this budget year? 2. What are the criteria that the Department has used in assessing water entitlements for their <u>ecological utility</u> and <u>value for money</u>? 3. Has this changed significantly from the 07/08 tender and if so, how? 4. To what degree is the impact of climate change on rainfall and runoff patterns 	WED	4.1	09/09/09

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				<p>incorporated into the future reliability of water entitlements and the entitlement acquisition process?</p> <p>5. To date, what proportion of initial offers are pursued? Is there a substantial difference between the Northern and Southern Tenders in this regard?</p> <p>6. What proportion of high, medium and low security water entitlements is the Department aiming to secure? On what advice is this based?</p>			
159	Written Qon	Siewert	Souther Basin Water Tender - expenditure	<p>For the Southern Basin tender:</p> <p>1. How much money has been spent or is at this moment tied-up or in-play in the tender?</p> <p>2. Of this money, how much or what proportion has been spent or is tied-up or in-play in relation to high, medium and low-security water?</p> <p>3. What total volume of water entitlements does this equate to?</p> <p>4. Of that volume, how much or what proportion is classified as high-reliability, medium-reliability and low-reliability?</p> <p>5. Under these three headings, high, medium and low-reliability water entitlements, what is the range and the median number of years during which the full entitlement will be available as an allocation?</p> <p>6. What is the actual volume of water that would have been available in this water year from the total amount of entitlements at issue under the 08/09 tender?</p>	WED	4.1	10/09/09
160	Written Qon	Siewert	Managed Investment Schemes	<p>1. Has the Government bought any water entitlements from any Managed Investment Schemes?</p> <p>2. If so, how much?</p>	WED	4.1	13/08/09
161	Written Qon	Williams	Water licences – food prices	What modelling has been done to determine if and by how much food prices will rise once less water is available for use on agricultural land?	WED	4.1	09/09/09
162	Written Qon	Williams	Water Reform funding – structural adjustment	In regard to the remaining \$5.8 billion of budgeted water reform funds, is there any plan for structural adjustment assistance to help irrigators and their communities adjust to the changes caused by the further removal of productive agricultural water?	WED	4.1	09/09/09
163	Written Qon	Williams	Adelaide water supply – in-system losses	Will the Government focus on the huge in-system losses re the water supply to Adelaide from Lake Victoria, Menindee Lakes and Lakes Albert and Alexandria as priority over the removal of productive agricultural water?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
164	Written Qon	Williams	Water buybacks -	Will the Government place a premium for on-farm efficiency gains over water buy-backs?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
165	Written Qon	Williams	Water Buybacks - tenders	<p>The following questions to be asked for the following catchments – CONDAMINE BALONNE, MACINTYRE RIVER, BARWON DARLING, GWYDIR, MACQUARIE, NAMOI</p> <p>1. What water was tendered in the first round of buybacks?</p> <p>2. At what price?</p> <p>3. With the current round of tenders who will decide which to accept?</p>	WED	4.1	13/08/09

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				<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Is the Government deliberately taking advantage of current financial stress by forcing people to accept lower prices? 5. Are you trying to force the price down? 6. What would be considered a reasonable price per megalitre for high security allocations? 7. What would be considered a reasonable price per megalitre for water harvesting/high flow entitlements? 			
166	Written Qon	Williams	Water Buybacks – rejected tenders	<p>The following questions to be asked for the following catchments – CONDAMINE BALONNE, MACINTYRE RIVER, BARWON DARLING, GWYDIR, MACQUARIE, NAMOI</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many tenders were rejected? 2. What were the reasons for rejection? 3. How does reliability of water supply affect prices, for example in this river with 100% reliability is the price being offered here higher than for other rivers? 4. What are the implications for holders of the water entitlements who have had tenders rejected? 5. Have all of them been notified 6. Have water entitlement holders who have had tenders rejected been advised to submit a new tender? 7. Have they been advised of a price guideline? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
167	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water purchase - Twynam	With regard to the purchase of water licences from Twynam Agricultural Group, what was the allocation made against each entitlement purchased for each of the last 10 years?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
168	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water Purchases – entitlements	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has the Government spent purchasing water entitlements in the past 12 months? 2. How much is allocated to be spent, and what are the targeted water savings, for the next 12 months and for each year of the forward estimates? 3. How have these figures varied as a result of any agreements between the Government and Senator Xenophon? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
169	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water Tenders	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the delay, by state, between acceptance by the Government of a tender and completion of the transfer? 2. Of the 2008-09 accepted tenders, what value (by dollars and megalitres) failed due diligence and were not settled? What were the reasons? 	WED	4.1	13/08/09
170	Written Qon	Birmingham	On-Farm irrigation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How much has the Government spent on on-farm irrigation projects in the past 12 months? 2. How much is allocated to be spent, and what are the targeted water savings, for the next 12 months and for each year of the forward estimates? Please detail 	WED	4.1	17/08/09

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				project commitments where possible. 3. How have these figures varied as a result of any agreements between the Government and Senator Xenophon?			
171	Written Qon	Birmingham	On-Farm irrigation	How much was spent by the Federal Government on rolling-out and administering its On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency (Pilot Projects)? Is it true that in the end it handed out \$5.6 million for a return of approximately 2000 mL?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
172	Written Qon	Birmingham	On-Farm irrigation – Murray-Darling Basin	The Budget announced the \$300 million On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program for the southern connected system of the Murray-Darling Basin. 1. What will be the criteria for funding under this program? 2. When will funding rounds open? 3. How much water, in megalitres, is it anticipated will be saved under this program?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
173	Written Qon	Birmingham	On-Farm irrigation – State Priority programs	Please provide information on the status of the State Priority Programmes, and what money has actually been sent out?	WED	4.1	
174	Written Qon	Birmingham	Off-Farm irrigation	1. How much has the Government spent on off-farm irrigation projects in the past 12 months? 2. How much is allocated to be spent, and what are the targeted water savings, for the next 12 months and for each year of the forward estimates? Please detail project commitments where possible. 3. How have these figures varied as a result of any agreements between the Government and Senator Xenophon?	WED	4.1	
175	Written Qon	Birmingham	Off-Farm irrigation – Murray-Darling Basin reform	1. What water saving/infrastructure projects were committed to or identified by the Intergovernmental Agreement on Murray-Darling Basin Reform signed by Prime Minister Rudd and First Ministers of Murray-Darling Basin states and territories in July 2008? 2. What progress has been made on each of these projects?	WED	4.1	13/08/09
176	Written Qon	Birmingham	Irrigated Communities	Has any funding been allocated to address the coordination, collaboration and cooperation between commodity groups, research providers and Research and Development Corporations with relation to irrigation research, development and extension?	WED	4.1	09/09/09
177	Written Qon	Nash	Water Planning Mangement Charge Rules - irrigators	1. Is the Department aware that a pass through to irrigators from States means the charge is not a regulated water charge pursuant to the Act? 2. Is the Department aware that this means the charge is not governed by the ACCC derived Water Planning and Management Charges Rules? Given this, some states will pass it on and some won't – how is that contributing to “competitive neutrality”?	WGD	4.1	13/08/09
178	133 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Port Pirie, SA – water recycling	Senator BIRMINGHAM —This one in regards to their water recycling proposal, which your then shadow minister for water, Mr Albanese, in November 2007	WGD	4.1	

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			proposal - NyrStar	committed that Labor will give the Port Pirie water recycling proposal urgent attention. What urgent attention is being given to the NyrStar proposal? Senator Wong —I might have to take that question on notice, Senator. Senator BIRMINGHAM —Is any attention being given to the NyrStar proposal? Senator Wong —I said I might have to take this on notice. There are quite a number of projects that the Commonwealth is funding, as you would be aware, and I do not want to give you incorrect information. I would like to take the question on notice.			
179	134 (28/5/09)	Birmingham	Surf life saving clubs – rain water tanks	Senator BIRMINGHAM —How many have you budgeted for this financial year? Mr Robinson —I would have to take that on notice, Senator.	WGD	4.1	04/09/09
180	Written Qon	Birmingham	Nyrstar Water recycling project	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Has the Government met with Nyrstar and/or the Port Pirie Regional Council regarding its proposed water recycling project? If so, when have these meetings occurred? Has any application for funding been made by Nyrstar or the Port Pirie Regional Council? Has any assistance been provided in the preparation of any application for funding? Has any due diligence or other assessment of the proposed water recycling project been undertaken? Why hasn't this project been fast tracked in the same manner as for the Adelaide desalination plant? 	WGD	4.1	
181	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water Grants – Surf Life saving clubs	<p>On 19 October 2007, Mr Garrett and Mr Albanese promised every surf life saving club in Australia would get \$10,000 each to enable them to install rainwater tanks. The promise was repeated in the Budget in May 2008.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How many surf life saving clubs have had rainwater tanks installed under this program since then? What has happened to this promise? Has the program been axed? If so, why hasn't it been announced? Have there been any complaints by surf life saving about delays to this program Please provide a table which outlines which clubs have received rainwater tanks, when they were installed, what federal electorate the club is located in, and the cost of the tank. 	WGD	4.1	
182	Written Qon	Birmingham	National Rainwater and Greywater Initiative – rainwater tanks	<p>In 2008, the Budget promised \$250 million for grants for rainwater tanks, including for surf life saving clubs.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What has happened to this program? Is there still \$250 million allocated to this program? Has this funding been cut, reduced or axed altogether? Since announcing the program in May last year and re-announcing in January 	WGD	4.1	

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				this year, how many rainwater tanks have actually been installed in people's homes?			
183	Written Qon	Hanson-Young	Water for the Future p.207&208 Budget Paper No.2 – Adelaide Desalination plant	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Given there was an injection of an additional \$228m into the South Australian desalination plant to double the size of its output from 50GL to 100GL per year, were any other water security options offered to the SA Government apart from desal? I asked Minister Wong this question in budget week, but I am interested to know whether I can get an answer this time. Following the federal funding for the desalination plant, Premier Rann stated that "From the end of 2012, there'll be no reason for us to have water restrictions because we'll guarantee water supply for decades to come..." what message does this send to the other states about how serious South Australia is taking the water crisis? Following on from the federal government's commitment to the Adelaide desalination plant, the SA Treasurer stated on ABC 891 when questioned on whether the state government would continue funding to the proposed Point Lowly desal plant that "the need to relieve pressure from the Murray has now been addressed through the desalination plant in Adelaide...so therefore the need to build another desalination plant as it relates to the Upper Spencer Gulf may not be necessary because we are looking at other options about smaller micro desal for various parts of the peninsula. Given that it appears the state government will not provide any further funding, the fact that the federal government provided \$160m in March to the project, is there an intention to continue to support this proposal? If so, what would the Government's purpose be to continue funding, and will you have a say in the exact location? 	WGD	4.1	04/09/09
184	Written Qon	Williams	Murray-Darling Basin - licences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When the great lakes at the end of the Murray Darling Basin are back to environmental health, will the water licences purchased by the Government be available again for purchase by water users? What measures are or will be put in place for regional communities whose economies are adversely affected by the sale of the water licences to the Government? 	WGD	4.1	13/08/09
185	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water flows – Gwydir River	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When was the last time the Gwydir River provided any flows into the Darling River? What increased flows are estimated would have been required for the Gwydir to have flowed into the Darling for each of the last 10 years? 	WGD	4.1	13/08/09
186	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water flows – Lachlan River	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> When was the last time the Lachlan River provided any flows into the Murrumbidgee River? What increased flows are estimated would have been required for the Lachlan to have flowed into the Murrumbidgee for each of the last 10 years? 	WGD	4.1	13/08/09

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187	Written Qon	Birmingham	Water for the Future – National stormwater funding	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What will be the eligibility criteria for the Water for the Future – national stormwater funding measure and how will eligibility criteria be developed? 2. How will this measure be administered? 3. When will the funding round be advertised and open for applications? 4. What environmental checks and balances will successful applicants have to fulfil? 	WGD	4.1	04/09/09
188	Written Qon	Birmingham	High Court challenge – Vic Water cap	<p>With reference to the promise by the South Australian Premier to launch a High Court challenge against the Victorian water cap:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Will the Government support the challenge? 2. What legal advice has the Department received on this? What did it say/recommend? 3. Noting that the water savings resulting from the on-farm water grants program will be deemed to be outside Victoria's 4% cap, is this an admission that the Government will not take on Victoria in relation to the cap? Does this mean that the High Court challenge is being avoided? 4. Exactly what savings are predicted to come from the grants program, by volume and value? 	WGD	4.1	13/08/09
189	Written Qon	Birmingham	Lower Lakes funding – bioremediation	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Over what years is the \$10 million on bioremediation for the Lower Lakes allocated? 2. Please detail how much will be spent each year? 3. Have agreements been reached with parties for the expenditure of those funds? If so, with whom, how much and what works will be undertaken? 	WRD	4.1	
190	Written Qon	Birmingham	Lower Lakes funding – long term solution	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Over what years is the \$200 million for a long term solution for the Lower Lakes and Coorong allocated? 2. Please detail how much will be spent each year? 3. Have agreements been reached with parties for the expenditure of these funds? If so, with whom, how much and what works will be undertaken? 	WRD	4.1	09/09/09
191	Written Qon	Hanson-Young	Bioremediation and revegetation trials p.192 Budget Paper No.2	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Where are we up to with the formulation of these trails? When do we expect them to commence? 2. Given this is part of the Nation Building and Jobs plan that was announced on February 3, have the jobs been advertised? If so, who is managing the application process? 3. Have suitable sites for these trails been identified? If so where, and what level of consultation has occurred with the relevant local communities? 4. What role will the State Government have in the process? 5. What role will Local Government's play in the process, given many have already begun their own bioremediation trials? 	WRD	4.1	09/09/09
192	Written Qon	Hanson-Young	Water for the Future	Will the Federal Government be committing any funding to the Wellington weir? Including construction, and community liaison.	WRD	4.1	13/08/09

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			p.207&208 Budget Paper No.2 – Wellington Weir				
193	Written Qon	Nash	Contigent liability - water	1. Why is there no contingent liability listed in the Budget for risk assignment payments pursuant to the Water Act? 2. Has the Department undertaken any work to estimate the liability for risk assignment pursuant to the Water Act? (Get this broken down by State).	WRD	4.1	09/09/09
194	Written Qon	Nash	MBDA – expenditure	1. Does the Department intend to recover any of the costs of the MDBA from states? If so, how will this money be recovered? 2. Who is auditing the costs of the MDBA to ensure that they are efficient costs?	WRD	4.1	13/08/09
195	Written Qon	Williams	Sustainable yields project	Will the Government quantify the cost of the CSIRO sustainable yields project and confirm its confidence in the date supplied?	WRD	4.1	13/08/09
196	Written Qon	Nash	Water Infrastructure funding	1. How much money was allocated to water infrastructure projects last financial year? Please provide this information on a project by project basis. 2. How much of what was allocated was actually spent against each of these projects. 3. What is the remaining balance? 4. How much was allocated for infrastructure projects this year? Please provide this information on a project by project basis. 5. What is the total balance for each project to be spent? ie. Last years unspent amount including this years allocated. 6. When will the remaining funds be spent?	WRD/ WED	4.1	
197	39 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	AFTRS – Students from NSW	Senator BIRMINGHAM —What proportion of your current students are originally from New South Wales or Sydney? Ms Levy —I am afraid I would have to guess that. I could give you a specific answer on notice.	AFTRS	5.1	31/07/09
198	40 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	AFTRS – Student fees	Senator BIRMINGHAM —Perhaps you could take on notice and provide us with some details of the student fees, that would be helpful. Ms Levy —I can give it to you now. Do you want to know the amount per course? Senator BIRMINGHAM —No, that is okay. We probably are time pressured. If you can provide that on notice, that would be great. The fee per course and how that was adjusted following the review that you undertook.	AFTRS	5.1	31/07/09
199	41 (27/5/09)	Troeth	ANMM – Maritime Museums Assistance Program	Ms Williams —We have a funding program called the Maritime Museums Assistance Program. It funds communities all throughout Australia, but they are all non-profit organisations, such as local historical societies or museums et cetera. The total value of that program last year was \$100,000. ... Senator TROETH —So out of that \$100,000 how many projects has the museum	ANMM	5.1	31/07/09

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				<p>funded in the 2008-09 financial year? Ms Williams—About 20. ... Senator TROETH—Would you able to give us a list, or table a list, of those 20 projects? Ms Williams—Yes. We are actually about to sit. The applications are coming through for this financial year. I obviously do not know those at this stage, but our annual report does record each of the applications for the previous financial year. Senator TROETH—Perhaps when you have made a decision, you would send through the current list to the committee?</p>			
200	41 (27/5/09)	Troeth	ANMM – MV Florrie funding	<p>Senator TROETH—So how much was the funding for the MV <i>Florrie</i>? Ms Williams—I would have to take that on notice.</p>	ANMM	5.1	31/07/09
201	43 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	ANMM – City of Adelaide clipper ship - relics	<p>Senator WORTLEY—What relics are there from the ship? Do we have any? Ms Williams—None have come to my attention, to be honest. The ship is the only object that was mentioned to me. In Scotland they would probably have some material. I am not aware of any artefacts or associated material with the ship at this stage. Senator WORTLEY—Is it possible to find out if there are any relics from the ship in Australia? Ms Williams—Yes, I could endeavour to find out.</p>	ANMM	5.1	31/07/09
202	49 (27/5/09)	Troeth	Arts – staff numbers	<p>Senator TROETH—I have one very general question relating to the arts. Mr Tucker, perhaps you will be able to answer this question. How many employees are there in the arts program for the department? Mr Tucker—I do not have the numbers directly in front of me. I can take that on notice. It is probably of the order of about 200.</p>	ARTS	5.1	31/07/09
203	Written Qon	Ludlam	NITV – possible cut off of digital TV trial run by Broadcast Australia in Sydney	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> Given that this could happen as early as August 2009, how would the Government go about continuing to provide free to air terrestrial access to NITV for the biggest single Indigenous population (Sydney) if the trial did close? Is the Department and the Government aware that currently only around 220,000 Australians have guaranteed terrestrial access free to air to the NITV service and that approximately 75% of Australia’s indigenous population have to subscribe to a pay TV service to get access to it? (recognising that the terrestrial free to air access to it in Sydney for the 2m people in that city with digital free to air equipment is on a trial basis only). 	Culture	5.1	03/08/09
204	28 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Aust Council – International Studios	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—How many studios are there? Ms Keele—I do not know right off the top of my head. I would take a look at that grants thing that you have in your hand and count them, but we can get back to you on that.</p>	Aust Council	5.1	31/07/09

Question No.	ECA Page No & Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Agency/ Division	Program	Date Rec'd
				<p>...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—How long has the council operated those studio sort of arrangements?</p> <p>Ms Keele—To tell you exactly I would have to get back to you, but for quite a long time.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Predominantly leased. Do you own any of the real estate?</p> <p>Ms Cowdrey—We work with Quest in one particular one. I would need to get you those details.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Thank you. For what proportion of the year are they occupied or utilised?</p> <p>Ms Keele—I am not sure I can answer that right off the top of my head. It is different for each one. Can we take that question on notice and get you a specific answer?</p>			
205	28 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Aust Council – use of International Studios	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Sure. Are the studios occupied only by grant recipients? Looking in the grants list, the list of the studios appears next to ‘Skills and art development’, the Barcelona studio, et cetera. Each of them is listed under ‘Skills and art development’. I am assuming that that is a skills and art development grant provided to somebody who goes to reside in and/or work in the studio?</p> <p>Ms Keele—Correct.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Are they the only people who utilise the studios?</p> <p>Ms Keele—I just want to check on that answer, but that is what the studios are used for, for the most part. The boards do the assessment and make the determination of who the artists are that are going to these places. But let me take it on notice to ask the question whether or not it is 100 per cent occupied by these grant recipients— but that is the major purpose.</p>	Aust Council	5.1	31/07/09
206	29 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Aust Council – Accommodation – International Studios	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—If it is a city where there is just a studio and no accommodation, are they provided with accommodation?</p> <p>Ms Keele—As I said, it depends on the art form board. Some will then have as part of the grant additional moneys for residency. I would have to get you the specifics by art form board on the residencies, but, yes, in some cases they do.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Obviously the council believes this is of significant benefit or it would not continue to do it year after year, but in terms of the benefits and outcomes for Australian arts, what assessments or reviews of the program has the council undertaken in recent times?</p> <p>Ms Keele—Quite a lot. I will have to get you that offline.</p>	Aust Council	5.1	31/07/09
207	29 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Aust Council – International	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Studios administration is listed in the grants list. I am not quite sure I understand why it is listed in the grants list as against another</p>	Aust Council	5.1	31/07/09

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			Studio Administration	<p>expense of the council, but skills and arts development, studios administration is listed for \$455,164. Do you know what that line item would be?</p> <p>Ms Cowdrey—I would suggest that it is related to the upkeep or maintenance and rental payments, of the particular studios, but, again, we would need to get you those details to confirm.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—If you could provide us with a breakdown of the costs associated with leasing arrangements, ownership arrangements, maintenance costs, all of those sorts of things, that would be much appreciated.</p>			
208	30 (27/5/09)	Wortley	Aust Council – Books Alive	<p>Senator WORTLEY—What corporate relationships have you developed in relation to the program?</p> <p>Ms Keele—Right off the top of my head—</p> <p>Senator WORTLEY—I am happy for you to take it on notice.</p>	Aust Council	5.1	31/07/09
209	31 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Aust Council – Orchestra programs	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What are those project items and of what value are they for the orchestras?</p> <p>Mr Grybowski—There was an allocation for a program loss of proficiency of musicians. There was another item for a reserves incentive scheme. There was another item for administration restructuring following divestment. Those type of activities.</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Perhaps if you could take on notice and summarise what those programs are that are ending, what their value is and what their value is to each of the orchestras. That would be helpful just to see what adjustment costs they may face at the end of 2009-10.</p>	Aust Council	5.1	31/07/09
210	6 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	Art Indemnity Australia – touring exhibitions	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—How many exhibitions between the \$20 million value and the \$50 million value have you provided indemnity to under the existing program in the past year or two?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Bassar—Sorry, I thought you asked the ones that were over that. You mean under the value threshold?</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Yes. ...Under \$50 million, that is right, between \$20 million and \$50 million.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—If you could provide us on notice with the last few years' details of how many exhibitions have been supported and what the values of those exhibitions were, so that we can at least see. If there were only two over \$50 million in the last year and there were 10 under \$50 million, then there seems to be a problem that we are shutting out the bulk of the market.</p>	Culture	5.1	31/07/09
211	9 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NFSA – office relocation	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—You are currently, I understand, relocating offices in Sydney and Melbourne?</p> <p>Dr McIntyre—We have moved from the AFC offices in William Street to Murray</p>	NFSA	5.1	31/07/09

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				<p>Street. We have set up an office there which gives a good location in central Sydney. Also in Melbourne we have had an office there, where it is just a move from one level onto another floor within the same building.</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What costs have been incurred with those relocations? Mr Vogt—We would need to take that one on notice, Senator. There were significant costs in relation to the establishment of both the Sydney and Melbourne offices this current financial year. We are also spending funding upgrading some of our other infrastructure. Senator BIRMINGHAM—If you could come back with those details, that would be great.</p>			
212	14 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NGA – Degas exhibition	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Excellent; thank you. How did the Degas exhibition proceed, Dr Radford?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—What revenue for the Gallery did that generate? Dr Radford—I would have to take that on notice. The exhibition—as these exhibitions do—cost approximately \$6 million to stage, and we almost covered our costs.</p>	NGA	5.1	31/07/09
213	15 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NGA and NPG - visitors	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Have you undertaken any research since its opening to see how many visitors are visiting both and what impact it might be having? Dr Radford—Yes, but I cannot quite remember the conclusions at this stage. Senator BIRMINGHAM—Perhaps you could take that on notice and provide any information back to us.</p>	NGA	5.1	31/07/09
214	15 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NGA and NPG – joint exercises	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—How are you operating your promotional budgets and what proportion of those are related to joint exercises? Dr Radford—I will have to take those details on notice, but we certainly did joint marketing and that will continue.</p>	NGA	5.1	31/07/09
215	19 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NLA – visitation numbers	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—Do you keep specific visitation numbers? Ms Fullerton—We certainly do, yes. Senator BIRMINGHAM—How have they changed, year on year? Ms Fullerton—We have a slight increase in numbers coming into the library in general. Use of the reading rooms is going up as is use of the collections. Requests for items to be used in the reading room are increasing significantly. We do chart every aspect of our use, not just people coming into the library. Senator BIRMINGHAM—Again, if you could take on notice and provide some year-on-year data for those figures, that would be helpful.</p>	NLA	5.1	31/07/09
216	21 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NMA – Licence fees for music	<p>Senator BIRMINGHAM—... In terms of the music that you already use throughout the gallery, is that music on which licensing fees are normally paid by the gallery?</p>	NMA	5.1	31/07/09

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				Mr Morton —Some of it would be. I can take it on notice and give you a breakdown of the sort of music we use and whether it is subject to licence fees or not.			
217	22 (27/5/09)	Birmingham	NMA – Garden of Dreams – commercial use	Senator BIRMINGHAM —If she were to choose to use it through her recording arrangements, are there rights back to the gallery for any payment from sales of that work? Mr Morton —I do not believe so; I will have to check that. I will have to take that non notice. I do not think so.	NMA	5.1	31/07/09
218	53 (27/5/09)	Ludlam	Heritage funding	Senator LUDLAM —I wonder whether it is possible, obviously on notice—I would not ask you to do this on the back of an envelope now—to provide us with figures that we could compare with previous years' funding. The last time we spoke I think I pointed out that funding has been declining in the medium term for heritage protection at the Commonwealth level for quite a period of time. This makes it difficult to establish whether that trend is reversed or whether it has stayed in the same place. Ms Kruk —If we can take that on board we will try to give you some meaningful figures, but I reaffirm, as Mr Shevlin has indicated, we have been fortunate enough to have a significant injection of capital, so we have done well. But I take your question on board and we will give you that information.	HD	5.2	16/09/09
219	54 (27/5/09)	Ludlam	Stimulus package funding - heritage	Senator LUDLAM —This might be more sensible to put to the minister. The stimulus package funding was meant to stimulate the economy rather than being absorbed into the Public Service, with respect. Would that 2.9 per cent administrative cost for heritage funding been subtracted from other parts of the stimulus package? Senator Carr —I would have to take that on notice. Senator LUDLAM —It is a very cross-portfolio question, but could you tell us whether three per cent of the whole stimulus package ended up being absorbed into administration costs or whether that is peculiar to this portfolio? Senator Carr —I will have to take that on notice.	HD	5.2	26/08/09
220	55 (27/5/09)	Ludlam	Stimulus package funding - heritage	Ms Kruk —Is your question: is there such a list, or are you suggesting that there be such a list? Senator LUDLAM —I think we established that there is a list. I am just wondering why it would not be in the public domain, or if there is an intention to make it so. ... Senator LUDLAM —That is fine. The logic appears to be sound. Nothing I have heard this afternoon suggests that anybody has got anything to hide but we do not know whether, when the minister is cutting the ribbon, that has been completely side-stepping the process which sounds quite robust and has invited the right people's opinions. We have no idea whether any of that work is incorporated in the	HD	5.2	31/07/09

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				final spend, and I think that is a fairly fundamental— Ms Kruk —I have heard your question. We will take that on notice.			
221	57 (27/5/09)	Ludlam	National Heritage management plans: ref Qon 115 SBE	Senator LUDLAM —I put a couple of questions on notice at the session in February. Answers were subsequently provided, but they were somewhat deficient in some cases, so I will just step through a couple of them if I could. Question on notice No. 115 says: At page 12 there is mention of a review of National Heritage management plans. When will this review be completed and will it be made public? There was not any information provided about when that review would be made public, so I am just wondering if you can help us out there? ... Senator LUDLAM —It sounds like a supremely worthwhile endeavour. I am still puzzled as to why the review would not be made public. Mr Tucker —We will take some advice on its release. Part of it might be the way in which we ask questions of people. We might have given them a commitment that it was going to be an internal working document and it would be kept confidential, in a sense to encourage them to be as open as possible. We will take some advice on that and see what we can do.	HD	5.2	31/07/09
222	62 (27/5/09)	Abetz	Heritage listings – Port Arthur buffer zone	Senator ABETZ —How wide is the buffer zone? Mr Shevlin —Buffer zones can vary significantly depending on the nature of a site. Senator ABETZ —What is being proposed for Port Arthur? Mr Shevlin —I do not have the details. I can take that one on notice.	HD	5.2	31/07/09
223	63 (27/5/09)	Abetz	Richmond Bridge, TAS – draft plan	Senator ABETZ — I would like to ask you about the 2008 draft plan. Was it dated 2008 or did you receive it in 2008 and how does that relate to what I was referring to earlier as the 1997 conservation plan? Mr Shevlin —To be honest, I do not have that level of detail. Senator ABETZ —You can take that on notice for me. ... Senator ABETZ —If you have concluded that the conservation plan of 1997, with a few adjustments, would be sufficient, have those plans or guidelines been used to manage the bridge to date? We have a plan, but is that being implemented as we speak or is it still a bit of paper without any practical application? Mr Shevlin —I would like to look at it in its entirety and check the details.	HD	5.2	31/07/09
224	63 (27/5/09)	Abetz	Richmond Bridge, TAS – laser scan	Senator ABETZ —One of the recommendations in the 1997 plan was that the load limit be reduced from 25 tonnes to 15 tonnes, but as I understand it that has not been done. Has your department undertaken any studies or assumed any load limits for it when the decision was made to include it on the National Heritage list? Mr Shevlin —I know we have provided some assistance for some engineering studies in relation to the bridge. Let me take that on notice.	HD	5.2	31/07/09

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				<p>Senator ABETZ—I understand there was that 2008 report that did express doubts about the load limit of 25 tonnes. I would appreciate it if you could make a comment about that. Was a laser scan made of the bridge in 2007? Are you able to shed any light on that?</p> <p>Mr Shevlin—I certainly read something suggesting there was a laser scan. I am not sure that that was not what we funded. I will take that on notice.</p> <p>Senator ABETZ—Can you tell me who funded that and also the results of that scan and whether they have helped inform the management plan details?</p>			
225	70 (27/5/09)	Boswell	Cape York Peninsula – World Heritage listing	<p>Senator BOSWELL—No, I am not asking about what has happened in the media. I am asking: who has put forward a recommendation to the department for a listing?</p> <p>...</p> <p>Ms Kruk—Mr Shevlin can take that on notice. I have seen only media reports where it has been suggested that the Wilderness Society has put forward the proposition. But, since Mr Shevlin is struggling, he obviously needs to check to see what request we have received.</p> <p>Senator BOSWELL—Could you take on notice whether Imogen Zethoven or Aila Keto in any way have made a recommendation?</p> <p>Mr Shevlin—We will take that on notice.</p>	HD	5.2	31/07/09
226	Written Qon	Birmingham	Regional Natural Heritage program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Did the Department conduct an evaluation of the Regional Natural Heritage Program which concluded in 2006-07? 2. If so, can this evaluation be provided? 3. If not, what was the Department's view of the success or otherwise of this program? 	HD	5.2	17/08/09
227	Written Qon	Birmingham	Staff Training	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In relation to both Departmental and Ministerial staff, please provide details of staff training activities undertaken this financial year, and planned for next financial year. 2. Please provide a breakdown of costs, the nature of the training programs run, numbers of staff involved by level of employment and any instances of external consultants being engaged. 3. Where external consultants were engaged, please detail their expertise and the specific deliverables of the program. 	CSD	All	17/08/09
228	Written Qon	Birmingham	Teleconferences	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many teleconferences have been held by the Minister(s)/Parliamentary Secretary with overseas events or conferences over the last year? 2. What funding has been provided for such teleconferences? 3. What plans does the government have to commence or increase the use of teleconferences by the Minister(s)/Parliamentary Secretary? 4. How much has been spent on teleconferences over the last year? How much is planned to be spent over the coming year? 	CSD	All	31/08/09

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Question No.	ECA Page No & Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Agency/ Division	Program	Date Rec'd
229	Written Qon	Birmingham	Graduates program	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Is the department cutting back on its graduate intake? 2. If so, by how much and when, and how many graduate places are being cut? 3. To what areas in the department would these positions have gone? 4. Has a date been set for when the program will be re-established? 	CSD	All	31/07/09
230	Written Qon	Birmingham	Hospitality	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the Department's hospitality spend for 2008/09? Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of all events. 2. For each Minister/Parliamentary Secretary's office, please detail total hospitality spend for 2008-09. Please detail date, location, purpose and cost of each event. 	CSD	All	14/10/09
231	Written Qon	Birmingham	Portfolio responsibilities – Costs	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How have portfolio responsibilities been apportioned between the Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary? 2. What additional Departmental or MoPS Act staff have been provided to the Parliamentary Secretary? What are their salaries? 3. What other costs are associated with the appointment of the Parliamentary Secretary? 	CSD	All	31/07/09
232	Written Qon	Boyce	DEWHA - Employment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How many people with a disability were employed full-time and how many part-time? What classifications were these staff employed under? 2. What percentage of staff in the Department had a disability at March 30, 2008 and March 30, 2009? 3. What programs does the Department have to encourage the employment of people with a disability? 	CSD	All	31/07/09
233	Written Qon	Birmingham	Staffing – Ministers and Parliamentary Secretary	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Please provide the names, salaries, titles and responsibilities of all staff in the Minister(s')/Parliamentary Secretary's offices. 2. Please indicate what their salaries were in October 2007 (or when they started) and what their salaries are now. 3. Please identify which staff have government cars as part of their package. What model vehicles do they drive? What is the cost of the vehicle packages? 4. Which staff are entitled to fly business class? 5. What is the home base for each of the staff? If they are not located in the home base of the employing Minister/Parliamentary Secretary or Canberra, what is the reason? 	CSD	All	16/10/09
234	Written Qon	Birmingham	Budget cuts	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What programs have been cut in this latest budget? 2. Please provide a detailed list of the specific programs which have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Been axed • Had their funding reduced by more than 10 per cent. 	PCD	All	31/07/09
235	Written Qon	Birmingham	Ministerial Travel	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Have the Minister(s) and/or Parliamentary Secretary travelled overseas on official business in 2008-09? 2. If so, where was the travel, what was the purpose and what was the duration? 3. What was the total cost of: 	PCD	All	03/08/09

SENATE ENVIRONMENT, COMMUNICATIONS AND THE ARTS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

ENVIRONMENT, WATER, HERITAGE AND THE ARTS PORTFOLIO

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE – BUDGET ESTIMATES – 27-28 MAY 2009

Question No.	ECA Page No & Date	Senator	Broad Topic	Question	Agency/ Division	Program	Date Rec'd
				<p>a) travel b) accommodation, and c) any other expenses?</p> <p>4. How many Ministerial staff or family accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary?</p> <p>5. For these staff (please outline their position)/family what was the cost of: a) travel b) accommodation, and c) any other expenses?</p> <p>6. How many officers from the Department accompanied the Minister/Parliamentary Secretary?</p> <p>7. In relation to these Departmental officers (please outline their position), what was the total cost of: a) travel b) accommodation, and c) any other expenses?</p> <p>8. Were any costs or expenses, as covered above, met by private companies, unions or other organisations? If so, please provide details.</p> <p>9. Please detail total travel expenses met by the Department. In relation to all departmental travel expenses, please provide estimated resulting carbon emissions. Were any offsets purchased? If so, how many and at what cost?</p>			