

**Senate Standing Committee on Economics**

**ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE**

**Treasury Portfolio**

Budget Estimates, 2 June – 4 June 2009

**Question: bet 150**

**Topic: Murray-Darling Basin**

**Hansard Page: Written**

**Senator Bushby asked:**

1. Submissions were called by ACCC on the justification of the rules limiting the trade of water – Murray-Darling Basin states – on March 7 this year. Have you received all submissions?
2. When are you expecting that the investigation will be due to report?
3. Will you report these findings publicly?

**Answer:**

1. The ACCC has received 20 submissions from interested parties as at 10 July 2009. All submissions received are available on the ACCC website at: <http://www.accc.gov.au/content/index.phtml/itemId/871291>.
2. The ACCC has expressed an intention to release its water trading rules position paper in August 2009, draft advice to the Murray-Darling Basin Authority (MDBA) in December 2009 and final advice in March 2010. There are no statutory deadlines for the ACCC's advice on water trading rules.
3. The timing of the public release of the ACCC's water trading rules final advice to the MDBA will be determined in consultation with the MDBA.