

## EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TRAINING

### SENATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE – QUESTIONS ON NOTICE 2004-2005 BUDGET ESTIMATES HEARING

**Outcome:** CSIRO  
**Output Group:** - CSIRO

#### DEST Question No. E236\_05

Senator Carr provided in writing.

#### Question:

Are any irrigation companies linked with any CSIRO Flagships?  
If so, which ones?

If so, what research programs are they involved in?

Has the CSIRO received any funding from these companies for the Flagship program?

Have any of these companies been approached to become involved?  
If so, which companies and when were they approached?

#### Answer:

CSIRO has provided the following response.

#### *Flagships and irrigation companies*

There are no contracts, funding or activities directly between the Water for a Healthy Country Flagship and specific irrigation companies at present.

There are several indirect relationships, as follows:

- CSIRO has existing work with groups such as Pratt Water. Findings from these joint activities are inputs into assessments of irrigation water use efficiency and improved management being undertaken in the Murray node of the Flagship.
- The Flagship has a partnership project with the CRC for Irrigation Futures. This project aims to provide an improved information base on irrigation activities, outputs and management in the Murray. This CRC has links with a variety of irrigation related entities from State Government (e.g. Sunwater in Queensland) to regional bodies (e.g. Goulburn Murray Water in Victoria).
- The Flagship is also establishing partnerships with the joint irrigation program managed through Land & Water Australia called the National Program for Sustainable Irrigation. Various irrigation companies contribute to this program. Again some of the data outputs will be inputs to Flagship activities.