

Standing Committee on Finance and Public Administration

ANSWER TO QUESTION ON NOTICE

Finance and Administration Portfolio

Department of Finance and Administration

Additional Estimates Hearing – February 2007

Question: F2

Outcome 1, Output 1.1

Topic: National Plan for Water Security

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Senator Sherry asked:

Just to be clear, you have a person in Finance who has some particular expertise in water policy and costing thereof?

Perhaps I would describe this as ‘a level of knowledge expertise in the water area broadly’. I am not trying to entrap you; I am just interested in the level of expertise you have to examine expenditure proposals in this area given their priority now.

Answer:

Yes, the Department of Finance and Administration (Finance) has officers with a broad level of knowledge in the area of water policy. Finance officials regularly cost Government proposals, including in relation to water and in doing so draw on their expertise and that of line departments.