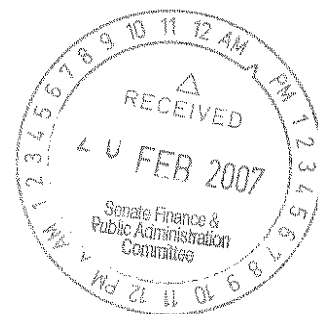


ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
National Water Commission
Additional Estimates Hearings 2006-07
(Question No. PM35)



Senator Stephens asked:

NWC CEO Ken Matthews recently announced Colin Chartres will be appointed to the position of Chief Science Adviser.

- a) When did Mr Chartres commence in the role of Chief Science Adviser?
 - b) Provide the Committee with a job description/duties of the Chief Science Adviser?
1. Did the upgrade of the Chief Science Adviser position occur subsequent to the announcement of the OWR?
 2. Does the Chief Science Adviser provide advice directly to the Parliamentary Secretary? To other agencies/departments?
 3. What APS level or equivalent is the Chief Science Adviser?

Answer:

- a) 19 September 2006
 - b) The duties of the Chief Science Adviser are:
 - Provide scientific leadership and advice to the Executive and Commissioners on water related reform activities and initiatives
 - Facilitate access to diverse scientific and technical expertise and information to support achievement of Commission objectives and priorities
 - Harness scientific expertise from a broad range of expert advisers and organisations and make it accessible for debate and decision-making by the Commissioners and Executive
 - Represent the Commission in scientific and industry forums
 - Actively contribute to implementing the Commission's organisational priorities and knowledge strategy
 - Lead a small team of staff with appropriate resource management in relation to specific projects or programmes as required
 - Provide mentoring and other support to foster increased capability for Commissioners and staff.
1. No, the staffing decision was made in May 2006 based on the ongoing resource requirements of the Commission.
 2. In line with the communication roles of General Managers within the Commission, the Chief Science Adviser may provide advice direct to the Parliamentary Secretary and/or other agencies/departments on the condition that information regarding the advice is provided to the CEO.
 3. Senior Executive Band 1