

SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS
AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT SOLICITOR

Question No. 86

Senator Ludwig asked the following question at the hearing on 24 May 2007:

With regard to the Government's "National Plan for Water Security" launched by the Prime Minister on 25 January 2007:

a) Was the AGS requested to provide input into the development of the plan or an assessment of any aspect of the plan?

i) If so, when and by who?

ii) What was the nature of the request?

b) Did the AGS provide any input into the development of the plan or an assessment of any aspect of the plan?

i) If so, when and to who?

ii) What was the nature of the input?

The answer to the honourable senator's question is as follows:

AGS is in a solicitor-client relationship with its government clients which requires AGS to maintain confidentiality with respect to its clients' matters. It is suggested therefore that any questions in relation to this matter be addressed to the Departments of the Environment and Water Resources and the Prime Minister and Cabinet.