



Auditor-General for Australia



29 April 2019

Senator Rex Patrick
Senator Stirling Griff
Ms Rebekha Sharkie MP
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young
The Hon. Tony Burke MP
Senator Cory Bernardi

Dear Members and Senators

Further to your letter of 24 April 2018 and my reply of 10 May 2018, I write to advise that I have decided to commence an audit entitled 'Procurement of Strategic Water Entitlements'.

This performance audit has now formally commenced and I have advised the Secretary of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources accordingly. The criteria for this audit are listed at <https://www.anao.gov.au/work/performance-audit/procurement-strategic-water-entitlements>. In short, the performance audit will look at the design of the current policy for water buy-backs, and whether its implementation has been effective.

The audit is currently forecast to table in Parliament in December 2019.

If you would like to provide any input to the audit or subscribe to the audit to receive updates, this can be done through the following link: <https://www.anao.gov.au/work-program/in-progress>.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Grant Hehir'.

Grant Hehir