




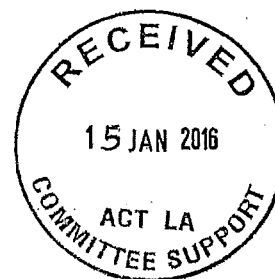
CHIEF MINISTER OF THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

TREASURER
MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
MINISTER FOR URBAN RENEWAL
MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND EVENTS

MEMBER FOR MOLONGLO

	A.C.T. LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE OFFICE
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Ms Mary Porter AM MLA
Deputy Chair
Standing Committee on Public Accounts
Legislative Assembly for the ACT
GPO Box 1020
CANBERRA ACT 2601



Dear Ms Porter ^{Mary}

STANDING COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS INQUIRY INTO
AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT No 6 OF 2015: BULK WATER ALLIANCE

Thank you for inviting the government to lodge a supplementary submission to the Committee's inquiry into Auditor-General's Report No. 6 of 2015: *Bulk Water Alliance*.

The government notes there were no recommendations in the Audit Report and is in general agreement with the audit findings and conclusions. I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate the following points as reflected in the ACT Government response to the Auditor-General's report, which was tabled in the Legislative Assembly on 15 September 2015:

- The audit report concluded ACTEW's use of the Bulk Water Alliance provided an appropriate and effective means to manage construction of the major water security projects and conformed to best practice guidelines, while suggesting some processes could have been better implemented.
- The government recognises there were cost overruns associated with the Enlarged Cotter Dam project, which were beyond the control of project management. The construction of the dam was impacted by significant periods of bad weather, several flooding events and the discovery of the geological fault.
- The government notes the audit report found no evidence the public had been deliberately misled by the reporting of changes to the costs of the Enlarged Cotter Dam during the planning and construction phases.

AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY


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- The major water security projects now provide the ACT community with considerably increased water storage capacity and much improved protection against future climate change impacts such as prolonged droughts.

I would like to again thank you for your invitation to provide the Committee with further comments.

Yours sincerely


Andrew Barr MLA
Treasurer

14 JAN 2016