



**Shane Rattenbury MLA**

Attorney-General

Minister for Consumer Affairs

Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction

Minister for Gaming

Member for Kurrajong

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**RESPONSE TO QUESTION ON NOTICE**  
**Environment and Communications References Committee**  
**Inquiry into the Water Amendment (Restoring Our Rivers) Bill 2023 [Provisions]**

**SENATOR DAVID POCOCK** - Asked the Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction:

How many times has the ACT released untreated or partially treated sewage into the Molonglo River over the past 5 years?

**MR RATTENBURY MLA** - The answer to the Senator's question is as follows:

There have been eight overflows of partially treated sewerage from the Lower Molonglo Water Quality Control Centre in the last five years – these began at the onset of the three consecutive La Niña events in 2020:

- 8-10 August 2020
- 14-16 November 2021
- 4–6 September 2021
- 25–29 November 2021
- 7-10 October 2022
- 21–25 October 2022
- 4–6 August 2022
- 2 November 2022

The overflows from the Centre occurred during periods of high flow in the Murrumbidgee River. The high river flows dilute the outflow from the Centre, minimising environmental and public health risks to downstream areas.

**Approved for circulation to the Member and incorporation into Hansard.**

**Shane Rattenbury MLA**  
**Minister for Water, Energy and Emissions Reduction**

Date: 8/11/23