

**SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE WARRAGAMBA DAM WALL  
INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSAL TO RAISE THE WARRAGAMBA DAM WALL**

**Answer to Supplementary questions: Mr Kevin Roberts**

**1. Why is Rachel Musgrave listed on the credit offset calculation report of the upstream EIS chapter?**

The offset calculation report (referred to as Appendix A Biobanking Credit Report in the Construction and Upstream Biodiversity Assessment Report) is a print out from the Biobanking Credit Calculator. The calculator is a tool managed and operated by the DPIE. The accredited assessor creates a proposal and enters data derived from the desktop and field assessment.

A request was made to DPIE to change the accredited assessor from Rachel Musgrave to myself following Rachel's resignation.

The BAR was signed by me as the accredited assessor and clearly identified in the Report certification in the first page of the Upstream and Construction BAR.

Following commencement of the EIS public exhibition it was identified that Rachel Musgrave's name remained within the Biobanking Credit Report in Appendix A. This was not identified before the EIS public exhibition. A request has been made to DPIE for this to be corrected.

**2. Have you been asked to undertake an offset costing or estimate for the project at any point in time?**

As outlined in my testimony to the Committee I have provided advice to the project team on how credits are calculated in accordance with the FBA and examples of how offset costs could be estimated. I have also pointed out the limitations in estimating offset costs because of the variability in how offset can be delivered and the specific circumstances of offset sites and credit requirements.

**a) What are the current estimated environmental offsetting cost for the project?**

I am not aware of the current estimated environmental offsetting cost for the project.

**3. Were offset costs a consideration in how to write about the nature and extent of upstream impact?**

Offset costs were not a consideration for me in how to write about the nature and extent of upstream impact.

**a) Did you discuss the offset calculation with David Harper or anyone else?**

Preparing a biodiversity assessment report under the FBA requires the assessor to discuss the approach to the assessment and the calculation of biodiversity credits with a range of people. I participated in discussions with members of the WaterNSW project team including David Harper as well as a range of officers within DPIE and representatives of the Commonwealth Environment Department (DoEE/DAWE) on the assessment process, methodology and credit calculations.

The question of how the FBA can be applied to the upstream area that would be subject to temporary inundation from the proposal was discussed. The approach to establishing the upstream impact area which was used as part of the calculation of credits using the FBA for the Upstream BAR was agreed to as part of these discussions with the agencies.

The methodology, and the consultation process to develop it, is outlined in the Upstream BAR (please refer to Section 1.5 of the Warragamba Dam Raising EIS Appendix F1: Biodiversity Assessment Report – Upstream).