

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)

**PROPOSAL NO. 14 OF 2019
BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE SERVICES COLLECTION

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information from Australian water supply and sewerage services businesses/organisations.

The information will be collected:

- during October-December of each year on an annual basis;
- from approximately 310 businesses;
- by a combination of self-enumeration and administrative data; and
- across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of measures, including:

- water extracted from the environment;
- water supplied and discharged;
- sewerage services undertaken; and
- income and expenses related to the above.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation and analysis of water supply and use in the Australian economy, in both physical and monetary terms.

The ABS expects to make statistical information from the collection available in the *Water Account, Australia* (cat. no. 4610.0) annually.

The principal users of the information the ABS produces will be:

- Federal and State environment departments; and
- government research organisations.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS has:

- considered what existing information is available;
- consulted with industry bodies and businesses;
- conducted testing to ensure data is readily available.

This collection was last conducted in October 2018 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal no. 23 of 2016.

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