1. In 2017, a series of ABC television programs raised issues relating to water management and compliance in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB), including allegations of water theft in New South Wales and concerns regarding the take of overland flow water in the Border River catchment in the Queensland Murray-Darling Basin.
2. In August 2017, the Queensland Government appointed an independent panel of water experts comprising Mr Tim Waldron (Chair), Professor Poh-Ling Tan and Mr Ian Johnson to undertake an Independent audit of Queensland non-urban water measurement and compliance. The report from the independent expert panel was provided to the government in March 2018.
3. The report from the independent expert panel made a number of recommendations to the government in relation to water measurement and metering, compliance, governance and assurance and transparency.
4. In 2017, the Murray-Darling Basin Authority also led an independent review of water compliance across all basin states. This report was released in November 2017 and contains recommendations relevant to Queensland water measurement and compliance frameworks. A Murray-Darling Basin Compliance Compact has been formed by basin states and the Commonwealth to deliver on actions to improve water measurement and compliance across the Murray-Darling Basin.
5. Cabinet noted the development of the Murray-Darling Basin Compliance Compact (including the Murray-Darling Basin Water Compliance Review) and the Independent audit of Queensland non-urban water measurement and compliance.
6. Cabinet approved the Queensland Government responses to the Independent audit of Queensland non-urban water measurement and compliance and the Murray-Darling Basin Compliance Compact, including the recommendations of the Murray-Darling Basin Water Compliance Review.
7. Cabinet approved that the Minister for Natural Resources, Mines and Energy report the Queensland Government responses to the Murray-Darling Basin Compliance Compact (including the Murray-Darling Basin Water Compliance Review) and the Independent audit of Queensland non-urban water measurement and compliance to the Murray-Darling Basin Ministerial Council meeting.
8. Cabinet approved the public release of the Independent audit of Queensland non-urban water measurement and compliance and the Queensland Government response.
9. *Attachments*
	* [Independent audit of Queensland non-urban water measurement and compliance](Attachments/Audit.PDF)
	* [Queensland Government response to the Independent audit of Queensland non- urban water measurement and compliance](Attachments/Response.PDF)