
The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia

Inquiry into the Development of Northern Australia

Interim Report

Joint Select Committee on Northern Australia

June 2014

Canberra

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ISBN 978-1-74366-172-7 (Printed version)

ISBN 978-1-74366-173-4 (HTML version)

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Membership of the Committee

Chair Hon Warren Entsch MP

Deputy Chair Hon Alannah MacTiernan MP

Members	Senator Sue Boyce	Senator Hon Jan McLucas
	Mr George Christensen MP	Senator Deborah O'Neill
	Senator Alan Eggleston	Ms Melissa Price MP
	Hon Gary Gray AO MP	Senator Rachel Siewert
	Mrs Natasha Griggs MP	Hon Warren Snowdon MP

Participating Members

Senator Chris Back	Senator Hon Kate Lundy
Senator Cory Bernardi	Senator Hon Ian Macdonald
Senator Catryna Bilyk	Senator John Madigan
Senator Mark Bishop	Senator Gavin Marshall
Senator Hon Ronald Boswell	Senator Anne McEwen
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Senator David Bushby	Senator Claire Moore
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Senator Hon Stephen Conroy	Senator Helen Polley
Senator Sam Dastyari	Senator Louise Pratt
Senator Sean Edwards	Senator Anne Ruston
Senator Hon Don Farrell	Senator Zed Seselja
Senator Hon John Faulkner	Senator Hon Lisa Singh
Senator David Fawcett	Senator Dean Smith
Senator Mark Furner	Senator Hon Ursula Stephens
Senator Alex Gallacher	Senator Glenn Sterle
Senator Hon Bill Heffernan	Senator Hon Lin Thorp
Senator Helen Kroger	Senator Mehmet Tillem
Ms Michelle Landry MP	Senator Anne Urquhart
Senator Sue Lines	Senator John Williams
Senator Hon Joe Ludwig	Senator Hon Penny Wong

Committee Secretariat

Secretary	Mr Peter Stephens (until 09.04.2014) Ms Stephanie Mikac (A/g from 10.04.2014)
Inquiry Secretaries	Dr John Carter Dr Bill Pender
Senior Research Officer	Ms Loes Slattery
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Terms of reference

The Committee to consider policies for developing the parts of Australia which lie north of the Tropic of Capricorn, spanning Western Australia, Northern Territory and Queensland, and in doing so:

- examine the potential for development of the region's mineral, energy, agricultural, tourism, defence and other industries;
- provide recommendations to:
 - enhance trade and other investment links with the Asia-Pacific;
 - establish a conducive regulatory, taxation and economic environment;
 - address impediments to growth; and
 - set conditions for private investment and innovation;
- identify the critical economic and social infrastructure needed to support the long term growth of the region, and ways to support planning and investment in that infrastructure.

The Committee to also present to the Parliament its recommendation for a white paper which would detail government action needed to be taken to implement the committee's recommendations, setting out how the recommendations were to be implemented, by which government entity they were to be implemented, a timetable for implementation and how and when any government funding would be sourced.

The Committee is due to present an interim report to Parliament on the activities of the Committee as soon as practicable after **30 May 2014**, with particular reference to the outcomes of public hearings held across Northern Australia, and any specialist knowledge emanating from the public submissions process. The Committee is due to deliver its final report and recommendations to the Parliament on or before **6 July 2014**.



List of abbreviations

CDU	Charles Darwin University
CSIRO	Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation
DIDO	Drive-in, Drive-out
FIFO	Fly-in, fly-out
JCU	James Cook University
LNG	Liquefied Natural Gas
NT	Northern Territory
ONA	Office of Northern Australia
RDA	Regional Development Australia
UWA	University of Western Australia
WA	Western Australia
WALGA	Western Australian Local Government Association

