



MEDIA RELEASE

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HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT

Inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations

*Chair: John Cobb MP
Deputy Chair: Andrew Giles MP*

Environment Committee reports on the Register of Environmental Organisations

The House of Representatives Environment Committee today presented its report into the Register of Environmental Organisations, a government scheme that enables eligible environmental organisations to receive tax-deductible donations.

The report centres on the administration of the Register, and how the Register supports communities to take practical action to improve the environment. The Committee has identified some key areas of possible reform of the Register, including measures relating to:

- the operation of the Register;
- activities undertaken by organisations listed on the Register; and
- the integrity of the current regulatory framework for registered organisations.

The Committee acknowledges the high level of public interest in the inquiry, having received over 685 submissions and a significant volume of correspondence. A substantial portion of this evidence originated from organisations currently listed on the Register. In recognition of this strong interest in the inquiry, the Committee undertook an extensive program of public hearings and site inspections around Australia, to hear firsthand about the range of environmental work being supported by the Register.

The Committee's report is accompanied by a dissenting report from the Labor members of the Committee, and additional comments from the Member for La Trobe, Mr Jason Wood MP.

A full copy of the Committee's report can be found on the inquiry's website at:
<http://www.aph.gov.au/reo>.

For media comment please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon John Cobb MP, on 0438 300 101.
For further information please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4580, email environment.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/environment>.