



PARLIAMENT of AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
Inquiry into Australia's Antarctic Territory

Issue date: 8 November 2017

Tasmania: the Antarctic Gateway

Tasmania's role as an Antarctic Gateway and the Australian Antarctic Division's role in leading and coordinating the Australian Antarctic Program will be the focus of a public hearing of a parliamentary [inquiry into Australia's Antarctic Territory](#) on Friday 10 November in Hobart.

The Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories will hear from the Australian Antarctic Division about the future direction and needs of the Australian Antarctic Program. The hearing will also provide the Committee with an opportunity to gather evidence from a range of Hobart based businesses, Government departments, research organisations and Antarctic experts such as Dr Tony Press on the contribution Tasmania makes to Antarctic sector.

Committee Chair, [Mr Ben Morton MP](#), noted that "as the home of the Australian Antarctic Division and a broad range of shipping and aviation infrastructure, logistical support services, and scientific expertise that service both Australian and international Antarctic programs, Hobart plays a special role in the Australian Antarctic Program."

Mr Morton said, "Friday's public hearing will provide the Committee with an opportunity to better understand how organisations within Hobart can better support both the scientific and logistical requirements of the Antarctic Program, while providing Tasmania with significant economic opportunities."

Further information, including submissions made to the inquiry and the details of upcoming public hearings, may be found on the Committee's [website](#).

**Public hearing details: 9:00 am – 4:30 pm (approx.), Friday, 10 November 2017,
Committee Room 1, Parliament House, Hobart**

9.00am — 10.00am: Roundtable – Hobart as an Antarctic Gateway

- Hobart Airport
- Tasmanian Ports Corporation
- Tasmanian Polar Network
- Macquarie Point Development Corporation

10.00am — 10.45am: Tasmanian Government

11.00am — 11.45am: Antarctic Climate & Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre

11.45am — 12.30pm: CSIRO

1.10pm — 1.55pm: Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies University of Tasmania



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1.55pm — 2.45pm: Dr Tony Press

3.00pm — 4.30pm: Department of the Environment and Energy, Australian Antarctic Division

The hearings will be broadcast live (audio only) at aph.gov.au/live

Media enquiries:

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For background information:

Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories
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Interested members of the public may wish to track the committee via the [website](#). Click on the blue 'Track Committee' button in the bottom right hand corner and use the forms to login to My Parliament or to register for a My Parliament account.

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