



THE SENATE

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS
Legislation Committee**

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry into the performance, importance and role of Australia Post in Australian communities and its operations in relation to licensed post offices

Extension of time to report

Today, the Senate Communications and Environment Legislation Committee received an extension to report on its inquiry into the performance, importance and role of Australia Post in Australian communities and its operations in relation to licensed post offices. The committee will now report on 27 August 2014.

The Chair of the committee, Senator John Williams, indicated that the committee has so far held four public hearings and received 170 submissions from stakeholders including Australia Post, the Departments of Finance and Communications, post office licensees and other interested parties. In addition, some 850 form letters from post office licensees have been received. Submissions are still being accepted.

Senator Williams added that the evidence received so far has provided the committee with a great deal of information about the Australia Post network, including Licensed Post Offices, and the issues being faced at the present time.

Given the importance of the post network to the business sector and the community as a whole and the complexity of the matters being considered by the committee, Senator Williams stated that the committee was seeking further time to conclude its inquiry.

Inquiries

Senator John Williams, Chair: 02 6721 4500

Committee secretariat: 02 6277 3526