



MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 25 November 2015

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations

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

Final public hearing for inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations

The House of Representatives Environment Committee will conduct a public hearing in Canberra tomorrow as part of its inquiry into the Register of Environmental Organisations.

Evidence will be heard from two of the agencies that administer not-for-profit environmental organisations: the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission and the Department of the Environment.

It is anticipated that Thursday’s hearing will be the final public hearing of the inquiry.

Committee Chair, the Hon John Cobb MP, acknowledged the contributions of various groups and members of the community to the inquiry.

“To date, the inquiry has received 682 submissions and many more pieces of correspondence from interested members of the community. The Committee has made an effort to travel extensively around the country to meet with as many people as possible about this issue.”

“I look forward to hearing from the agencies at tomorrow’s public hearing. It will be valuable to hear their responses to the evidence received so far, as the Committee starts to wrap up the public hearing program and commence its deliberations.”

At this stage, the report of the inquiry is expected to be tabled in the first half of 2016.

Details of the public hearing are as follows:

Time: 4.00 p.m.

Date: Thursday, 26 November 2015

Location: Committee Room 1R4, Parliament House, Canberra

4.00 pm	Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (Submission no. 185)
5.00 pm	Department of the Environment (Submission no. 189)

Audio from the hearings will be webcast at: http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament.

Further details about the inquiry, including submissions received and the terms of reference, 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>.