



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE,  
WATER, ENVIRONMENT AND THE ARTS

Inquiry into the Australian coastal zone

**MEDIA RELEASE**

*Issued: 22 January 2009*

*Chair—Jennie George MP  
Deputy Chair—Mal Washer MP*

## **Government and research groups attend Hobart coastal inquiry**

The House of Representatives Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts Committee will be in Hobart for a public hearing on Wednesday 28 January 2009 to hear from a range of organisations as part of its inquiry into climate change and environmental impacts on Australia's coastal zone.

The Committee will hear from scientists from CSIRO and the Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems CRC undertaking leading research on sea level rise, as well as from a coastal mapping expert from the University of Tasmania.

"The Committee will be seeking an update on the latest science concerning sea level rise, and how this information can be used by coastal decision-makers to inform the development of adaptation responses", Committee Chair Ms George said.

The Committee will also hear from representatives from the state and local government.

"As the Tasmanian Local Government Association submission notes, 'Tasmania has more coastlines per unit of land area than any other state in Australia and no place in Tasmania is more than 115 kilometres from the sea'".

"The potential impact of sea level rise on local coastal communities is therefore of great concern", Ms George said.

### **Public hearing schedule on 28 January 2009**

**Venue: Hobart Function and Conference Centre (Marina Room), 1 Elizabeth Street Pier, Hobart**

- 1.00pm CSIRO Marine and Atmospheric Research  
Antarctic Climate and Ecosystems Cooperative Research Centre**
- 2.00pm University of Tasmania**
- 3.30pm North East Bioregional Network**
- 3.45pm Tasmanian Government**
- 4.45pm Local Government Association Tasmania**

Further details on the inquiry can be obtained from the Committee's website at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ccwea>.

For **media comment**, please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Jennie George MP, on 02 6277 4260 (Canberra) or 02 4262 6122 (electorate office)

For **background information**, please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4580 or by email at [ccwea.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ccwea.reps@aph.gov.au).