



MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 10 July 2009

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES

Inquiry into Australian farmers and climate change

*Chair: The Hon Dick Adams MP
Deputy Chair: Mr Alby Schultz MP*

Queensland farmers to discuss farming and changing climate

As part of its inquiry into Australian farmers and climate change, the House of Representatives Primary Industries and Resources Committee will be holding public hearings in **Brisbane** on **14 July**, and a series of property inspections in the **Rockhampton** district on **15 July** and the **Emerald** district on **16 July**.

In Brisbane, the Committee will hear from representatives of a range of groups with an interest in the future of Australian agriculture in the face of climate change, including **Agforce, Growcom, Biodynamic Agriculture Australia, the Conservation Agriculture Alliance of Australia and New Zealand**, and two leading exponents of **Controlled Traffic Farming**. Details of the program are available on the Committee's website.

The property inspections at Rockhampton and Emerald will give the Committee an opportunity to look at on-farm innovations for adapting to climate variability and climate change, including better natural resource and enterprise management. The Committee will meet with farmers at the forefront of industry innovation and adaptation, to see what they are doing and what they see as the role of government in supporting climate change adaptation.

The Chair of the Committee, Dick Adams, said: "The committee has begun taking evidence from farmers who are adapting to meet the threat of climate change. We are seeing at first hand the good work that is being done by innovative and enterprising land managers. We are seeing what can be done by those who are willing to do it. The challenges we now face are: how to propagate cutting edge farm practices; how to connect land managers with scientific researchers in mutual knowledge-sharing relationships; and, how governments can support these things to promote better land management, environmental sustainability and food security in the face of climate change."

PUBLIC HEARING—Brisbane, Wednesday 14 July 2009

WHERE: Undumbi Room, level 5, Parliament House Annexe, Alice St, Brisbane
WHEN: Tuesday 14 July 2009, 10am–4pm

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (03) 6398 1115 or email D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au

Further information: contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4500 or 0419 468 689 (14-16 July), email pir.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pir>