



Public Hearing in Canberra

Applying the science of geosequestration

Representatives from the **University of New South Wales Centre for Energy and Environmental Markets (CEEM)** and from **BP Australia** will attend a public hearing into the science and application of geosequestration by the House of Representatives Science and Innovation Committee in Canberra on Monday 30 October.

The potential of geosequestration to contribute to lowering greenhouse gas emissions will be central to the discussions. CEEM advocate a range of power generation options and suggest that geosequestration has yet to be proven on a fully integrated large-scale. CEEM also remain uncertain about costings for geosequestration and the commercial viability of retrofitting existing power plants.

BP has been involved in geosequestration technologies as part of enhanced oil recovery. BP Australia maintains that there is the opportunity for Australia to become a world leader in carbon capture and storage technologies. However to implement this technology, a market mechanism is needed to drive the application of geosequestration and other low or zero-emission technologies. Industry also requires a clear legislative framework that addresses risk management and potential liabilities. **Mr Tony Espie**, Senior Advisor on CO₂ storage for BP in the United Kingdom, will provide expert evidence on carbon storage projects in the United Kingdom.

The Minister for Education, Science and Training, Julie Bishop, has requested that the Committee inquire into and report on the science and application of geosequestration technology in Australia, with particular reference to:

- The science underpinning geosequestration technology;
- The potential environmental and economic benefits and risks of such technology;
- The skill base in Australia to advance the science of geosequestration technology;
- Regulatory and approval issues governing geosequestration technology and trials; and
- How to best position Australian industry to capture possible market applications.

Venue: Committee Room 1S4, Parliament House, Canberra

Date: Monday 30 October 2006

4:35 pm **UNSW Centre for Energy and Environmental Markets** (Submission No 33)

5:20 pm **BP Australia** (Submission No. 43)

6:00 pm Hearings close

The public hearing will be broadcast internally (audio only) on HMS radio frequency 98.7. Further details, including the terms of reference, membership of the Committee and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/scin/geosequestration/index.htm> or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4150 or emailing scin.reps@aph.gov.au

For media comment: contact the Committee Chair Mr Petro Georgiou at Parliament House on (02) 6277 4419 or at his electorate office (03) 9882 3677.

For information: contact the Committee Secretary on (02) 6277 4150