



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

Inquiry into the Australian coastal zone

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 24 April 2009

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

Brisbane public hearings focus on Queensland's coastal zones

The House of Representatives Climate Change, Water, Environment and the Arts Committee will hear from a range of organisations and individuals at public hearings in Brisbane on Tuesday, 28 April and Wednesday, 29 April 2009, as part of its inquiry into climate change and environmental impacts on Australia's coastal zone.

Those appearing before the Committee include Dr Andrew Ash from the Climate Adaptation Flagship at CSIRO, and Professor Jan McDonald from the National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility at Griffith University. Representatives from the Queensland Government, local government, the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, coastal management research centres and coastal environmental groups will also be in attendance.

"With a growing population along its coastal zone and strong tourism industry, including the Great Barrier Reef, Queensland will be particularly affected by projected sea level rise, coastal flooding and erosion," Committee Chair Ms Jennie George MP said.

"Early planning for the impacts of climate change, and appropriate adaptation strategies that reduce the vulnerability of natural ecosystems and infrastructure to these impacts, are likely to bring considerable cost advantages."

"The Committee will be interested in discussing these and other matters with those attending the hearing," Ms George said.

Brisbane public hearing schedule

Tuesday, 28 April 2009

Undumbi Room, Queensland Parliament House

9.00am	CSIRO
10.15am	Local Government Association of Qld
11.00am	Australasian Quaternary Association
11.30am	Professor Tomlinson and Mr Lazarow, Griffith Centre for Coastal Management
1.30pm	Sunshine Coast Regional Council
2.15pm	Coolum District Coast Care and Sunshine Coast Environment Council
3.00pm	DHI Australia
3.30pm	Queensland Government
4.30pm	Professor McDonald, National Climate Change Adaptation Research Facility

Wednesday, 29 April 2009

Level 6, Hilton Hotel, 190 Elizabeth Street

9.00am	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
10.00am	Reef and Rainforest Research Centre
10.45am	Cairns Local Marine Advisory Committee

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.

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