

JOINT COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATIONS

Inquiry into the development of a digital repository and electronic distribution of the Parliamentary Paper Series

SUBMISSION

SUBMISSION NUMBER: 8

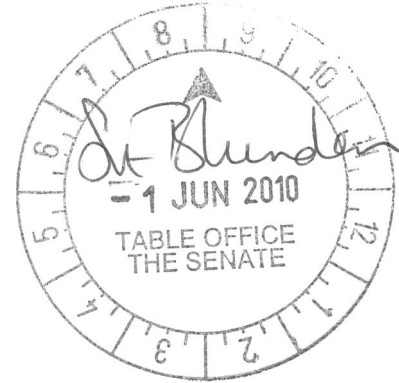
SUBMITTER: Queensland Parliamentary Library



Queensland Parliamentary Service

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Joint Committee on Publications
 Parliament of Australia
 Parliament House
 Canberra
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 2600



1 June 2010

Response to Joint Committee on Publications Inquiry into Electronic Distribution of the Parliamentary Papers Series.

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the current review by the Joint Committee on Publications inquiry into the Electronic Distribution of Parliamentary Papers

a) the online availability of documents tabled in the Parliament

The Queensland Parliamentary Library would welcome access to an electronic tabled Parliamentary Papers database.

But, most importantly for the business needs of the Queensland Parliament and its Members, the Parliamentary Library needs to continue to receive a hard copy version. The Queensland Parliamentary Library is now the only library in Queensland which continues to have full sets of Australian Parliamentary Papers since 1901 for access by Members of the Queensland Parliament, but also for access by the research community of Queensland.

b) the short and long term access to documents included in the PPS.

In addition to the answer above, it is vital that if the electronic tabled Papers database becomes a fact, then it must be an archive repository which maintains access to the full set of digital Parliamentary Papers at all times. It is no use if only a limited set of Papers is available at any one time.

The numbering of parliamentary papers needs to occur at the same time as the papers are digitised and this needs to be done in a timely way – the expectation is that papers are available within 24 hours of tabling. (Refer Queensland Parliament's Tabled papers Database <http://www.parliament.qld.gov.au/view/legislativeAssembly/taledPapers/home.asp>)

c) technological barriers

No comment.

d) options for digital repository and electronic distribution:

The Queensland Parliamentary Library's preference would be that there is a complete digital repository of all Papers available at all times. Most importantly, it needs to be searchable on a range of fields such as, title, date of tabling, Paper number, authoring agency, subject keyword etc.

The Queensland Parliamentary Library would consider the following access for its own clients

- Harvesting significant one-off reports which are tabled.

- Hyperlinking to the Australian parliament's repository databases (but this means that repository should be permanent and available at all times on the web)

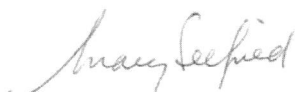
An email notice by which subscribed clients are notified of all updates as they occur would be most useful, at a minimum an RSS feed should be available for updating purposes.

e) administration of an electronic PPS

Advanced searching capability by external users and timely access by external is essential. These outcomes need to be built into the project.

I look forward to hearing of the outcome of this review.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Seefried
Parliamentary Librarian