



## INQUIRY INTO THE CLEAN ENERGY BILLS

The Joint Select Committee on Australia's Clean Energy Future Legislation will inquire into and report on the 18 Clean Energy Bills and the Steel Transformation Plan Bill 2011. The Bills are available from the committee's website.

The Bills implement the government's decision to place a price on carbon and move to an emissions trading scheme by 2015. The Bill provides for a fixed carbon price for three years starting at \$23 per tonne of carbon pollution. The legislation provides that the carbon price will be paid by liable entities, which have facilities that emit 25 000 tonnes or more of carbon pollution a year.

The Bills provide for assistance to support jobs in emissions-intensive trade exposed industries. In addition, the legislative package provides for tax reform and assistance to households.

The proposed legislation provides for the creation of the Clean Energy Regulator which will work with liable entities to ensure compliance with the mechanism. It is charged with educating and advising entities about how they may comply.

The Chair of the Committee, Anna Burke, said that the committee will examine the adequacy of the Bills in achieving the policy objective and where possible identify any unintended consequences.

The committee will conduct public hearings on Wednesday, 21 September, and in the week beginning 26 September. More information about the hearings will be circulated beforehand.

Interested persons and organisations are invited to make **submissions to the inquiry by Thursday, 22 September 2011.**

In July, the government announced the pricing mechanism and released draft legislation. The government received over 300 submissions on the exposure drafts. The committee will consider submissions made to the exposure draft consultation. Interested parties only need to make a submission if they wish to update their previous one.

The committee will report on or before Friday, 7 October 2011.

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