



Minerals Council of Australia to appear before Treaties Committee for China Uranium Inquiry

The Minerals Council of Australia will appear at a public hearing on Monday (16 October 2006) as part of the Treaties Committee inquiry into the nuclear transfer and safeguards agreements with China.

The nuclear material transfer agreement would allow for the supply of Australian uranium to China's nuclear power program. The nuclear material safeguards agreement would provide for cooperation on various nuclear issues; including the transfer of nuclear-related material, equipment and technology. The treaties are expected to provide for the supply of uranium to meet China's energy requirements, while providing an increased economic benefit for Australia.

"The Committee welcomes the opportunity to hear from a peak mining industry organisation and canvas industry views on the treaty actions"

"The Committee will hold another hearing on the treaties in Melbourne on 25 October to hear from other interested organisations," Dr Southcott said.

Copies of submissions and further information about the inquiry is available on the Committee's website:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/jsct/8august2006/index.htm>

MEDIA CONTACTS

Media contacts:	Wayne Arbon	(Dr Southcott's Office)	(08) 8374 0511 or 0439 883 385
	Michael Watts	(Mr Wilkie's Office)	(08) 9470 4131 or 0419 993 677
Background:	James Rees	(Committee Secretary)	(02) 6277 4642