



## MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 26 October 2009

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE  
ON PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES  
Inquiry into Australian farmers and climate change

Chair: *The Hon Dick Adams MP*  
Deputy Chair: *Mr Alby Schultz MP*

# Helping farmers meet the climate change challenge

As part of its inquiry into Australian farmers and climate change, the Primary Industries and Resources Committee will hear from representatives of the **Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)**, and the **Department of Climate Change (DCC)** at a public hearing to be held on **28 October 2009**, in Committee Room **1R3**, Parliament House, Canberra, at **5.00pm**.

In their joint submission to the inquiry (Submission no. 70) DAFF and DCC stress that: "Managing the risks these changes will pose to the agricultural sector will require strategic business planning. Planning will be necessary at the individual farm level, as well as at regional and industry-wide scale, because it is highly likely that transformational change will be necessary in some regions and across some industries." The DAFF and DCC submission also notes the importance of improving knowledge provided to farmers to help them meet the coming challenges.

The Chair of the Committee, Dick Adams, said: "It is vital that Australia's agricultural industries meet the challenge of climate change. Australia's food security and export income is at stake. Australia's farmers are innovative and adaptable. Individuals are rising to the challenge. We need whole industries to rise to the challenge, and we need governments to facilitate that process."

Mr Adams noted that "in the past government funded agricultural research had played a major role in enhancing the productivity and sustainability of Australian agriculture. Now, more than ever, we need governments to provide leadership and funding in agricultural research to ensure that Australian farmers remain globally competitive in the face of climate change."

### **PUBLIC HEARING—Canberra, Wednesday 28 October 2009**

**WHERE:** Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra  
**WHEN:** Wednesday 28 October 2009, 5.00pm  
**WEBCAST:** <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (02) 6277 4293 or email [D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au](mailto:D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au)

**Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4500, email [pir.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:pir.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/pir>