



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Standing Committee on Environment and Heritage

**MEDIA ALERT**

Issued: 18 March 2003

**Public Hearing - Thursday 20 March - Canberra**

**Environment Business Australia to discuss  
Inquiry into Employment in the Environment Sector**

The CEO of Environment Business Australia, Ms Fiona Wain, will appear this Thursday at a public hearing of the House of Representatives Environment Committee's inquiry into employment in the environment sector.

This will be the eighth public hearing of the inquiry, which is examining the current contribution of environmental goods and services to employment in Australia, and the potential for future growth. In particular, the Committee is interested in examining how **federal policy** can assist future growth to be achieved.

**Environment Business Australia** is the peak organisation for the environment and sustainability industry. The association is active in developing growth strategies to improve access to domestic and export markets, and stimulating public awareness of environmental issues.

Environment Business Australia believes that, with appropriate investment and policy measures, Australia's environment industry can be developed into a **\$40 billion per annum** sector of the economy by the end of the decade.

The House of Representatives Environment Committee is also interested in ensuring that Australia has an **appropriately skilled workforce** to service environmental needs, and in examining possible **information and reporting systems** that would boost the uptake of environmental goods and services, enhance overall business performance, and assist development of the sector.

**Public Hearing, Thursday 20 March 2002**

**Who:** Environment Business Australia  
**Where:** Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra  
**When:** Thursday, 20 March, 11.00 am – 12.00 noon

*Background:* Environmental goods and services can be broadly interpreted to include activities such as production of pollution reduction equipment, employment of environmental consultants and workers in the public sector involved in national park management, as well as provision of services in related activities such as tourism, and conservation and environmental management in agriculture, mining and manufacturing.

**For media comment, please contact:**

Bruce Billson, House Environment Committee Chair, tel (02) 6277 4879 (Parliament House)

**For more detail on the inquiry, including submissions, please contact:**

The House Environment Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4580 or visit the inquiry web site at [www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/envIRON/greenjobs/index.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/envIRON/greenjobs/index.htm)