



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS**

Inquiry into the National Broadband Network

*Chair: Sharon Bird MP  
Deputy Chair: Paul Neville MP*

## **House Committee Examines National Broadband Network**

The House of Representatives Infrastructure and Communications Committee will conduct an inquiry into the role and potential benefits of the National Broadband Network.

The Chair of the Committee, Sharon Bird, said “the National Broadband Network represents an enormous investment in our nation’s public infrastructure, so we want to make sure the potential applications of NBN are well understood by the Parliament and the Australian people.”

She added “the Committee is looking forward to hearing from a range of organisations and individuals across Australia about how they will be affected by the roll out of high-speed broadband into their communities”.

The inquiry was referred by the Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, the Hon Anthony Albanese, who specifically asked the Committee to examine the capacity of the National Broadband Network to contribute to:

- a) the delivery of government services and programs;
- b) achieving health outcomes;
- c) improving the educational resources and training available for teachers and students;
- d) the management of Australia's built and natural resources and environmental sustainability;
- e) impacting regional economic growth and employment opportunities;
- f) impacting business efficiencies and revenues, particularly for small and medium business, and Australia's export market;
- g) interaction with research and development and related innovation investments; and
- h) facilitating community and social benefits; and
- i) the optimal capacity and technological requirements of a network to deliver these outcomes.

The Committee will report by August 2011.

The Committee will accept submissions addressing one or more of the points listed in the terms of reference until **Friday, 25 February 2011**. Further details about how to make a submission can be obtained from the Committee’s website at:

<http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/ic/NBN/index.htm>.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Sharon Bird, on (02) 4228 5899

**Further information:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2352, email [ic.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:ic.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the Committee’s webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/ic>