



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES**

Inquiry into the draft Offshore Petroleum Amendment
(Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill

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

Greenhouse Gas Storage

Public Hearings—Parliament House 15–18 July

The House of Representatives Primary Industries and Resources Committee will conduct public hearings, as part of its inquiry into the ***Offshore Petroleum Amendment (Greenhouse Gas Storage) Bill***, at Parliament House, Canberra, on 15–18 July 2008.

The Bill amends the *Offshore Petroleum Act 2006* to establish a framework for the management of carbon dioxide injection and storage operations in offshore Commonwealth waters. It will enable safe and secure storage of CO₂ in geological formations deep underground and seeks to tackle the effects of climate change while maintaining Australia jobs and security.

The inquiry has so far attracted 29 submissions from a range of industry and environmental groups and State Governments. Those to appear before the committee include the Victorian Government (Submission no.16), Monash Energy (Submission no. 13), the CO2CRC (Submission 1), ExxonMobil (Submission 6), and the Australian Network of Environmental Defender's Offices (Submission 14). The committee will also be taking evidence from the Department of Energy, Resources and Tourism. Details of submissions and hearing programs are available on the committee website.

The Chair of the Committee, Dick Adams, said that the inquiry presented an important opportunity to publicise this important area of policy, and address the concerns of industry and the community in relation to the Bill. "The range and quality of the evidence received thus far indicates that Carbon Capture and Storage is being taken very seriously by the community. This legislation is a once in a generation opportunity to make a significant difference to greenhouse gas emissions. We must get it right."

PUBLIC HEARING—Canberra, 15–18 July 2008

WHERE: Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

WHEN: Tuesday 15 July 2008, 9am–5pm
Wednesday 16 July 2008, 9am–5pm
Thursday 17 July 2008, 9am–5pm
Friday 18 July 2008, 9am–3pm

WEBCAST: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (03) 6398 1115 or email Dick.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au

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