

The Senate

Standing Committee on
Rural and Regional
Affairs and Transport

Budget estimates 2008–09

June 2008

© Commonwealth of Australia

ISBN 978-0-642-71925-6

This document was produced from camera-ready copy prepared by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, and printed by the Senate Printing Unit, Department of the Senate, Parliament House, Canberra.

Membership of the Committee

Members

Senator Glenn Sterle	ALP, Western Australia	Chair
Senator Rachel Siewert	AG, Western Australia	Deputy Chair
Senator the Hon. Bill Heffernan	LP, New South Wales	
Senator Steve Hutchins	ALP, New South Wales	
Senator Annette Hurley	ALP, South Australia	
Senator Julian McGauran	LP, Victoria	
Senator Fiona Nash	NPA, New South Wales	
Senator Kerry O'Brien	ALP, Tasmania	

Participating Members

Senator Abetz	Senator Ellison	Senator McLucas
Senator Adams	Senator Fierravanti-Wells	Senator Murray
Senator Allison	Senator Fifield	Senator Nettle
Senator Barnett	Senator Fielding	Senator Milne
Senator Bernardi	Senator Fisher	Senator Minchin
Senator Birmingham	Senator Forshaw	Senator Moore
Senator Bishop	Senator Hogg	Senator Parry
Senator Boswell	Senator Humphries	Senator Patterson
Senator Boyce	Senator Johnston	Senator Payne
Senator Brandis	Senator Joyce	Senator Polley
Senator Brown	Senator Kemp	Senator Ray
Senator C Brown	Senator Kirk	Senator Ronaldson
Senator Bushby	Senator Lightfoot	Senator Scullion
Senator Campbell	Senator Lundy	Senator Stephens
Senator Chapman	Senator Marshall	Senator Troeth
Senator Colbeck	Senator I Macdonald	Senator Trood
Senator Coonan	Senator McEwen	Senator Watson
Senator Cormann	Senator S Macdonald	Senator Webber
Senator Crossin	Senator Mason	Senator Wortley
Senator Eggleston	Senator McEwen	

Table of Contents

Membership of the Committee	iii
Abbreviations	ix
Chapter 1	
Introduction	1
Questions on Notice	2
Additional information	3
Note on references	3
Chapter 2	
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio.....	5
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	5
Management Services and Corporate Policy.....	5
Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority	6
Australian Wool Innovation	7
Product Integrity and Animal and Plant Health	9
Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service	9
Export Wheat Commission.....	10
Biosecurity Australia	11
International.....	11
Grains Research and Development Corporation	11
Meat and Livestock Australia.....	12
Food and Agriculture.....	12
Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics	12
Rural Policy and Innovation.....	13
Natural Resource Management	14
Fisheries and Forestry (incorporating Australian Fisheries Management Authority)	14
Chapter 3	
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Portfolio	17
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	17
Secretary's overview	17

Corporate Services.....	18
Inspector of Transport Security	19
Office of Transport Security.....	19
Civil Aviation Safety Authority	20
Australian Transport Safety Bureau	20
Airservices Australia	21
Aviation and Airports	21
Bureau of Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Economics.....	21
Australian Rail Track Corporation	21
Infrastructure Investment.....	22
National Transport Strategy	23
Infrastructure and Surface Transport Policy	23
Australian Maritime Safety Authority.....	23
Local Government and Regional Development	24
Additional Comments from Senators Scullion, Heffernan, McGauran and Nash	27

Appendix 1

Departments and agencies under the two portfolios for which the committee has oversight.....	29
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio.....	29
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Portfolio	30

Appendix 2

Table of contents to proof Hansard transcripts	31
Monday 26 May 2008	32
Tuesday 27 May 2008	33
Wednesday 28 May 2008	34
Thursday 29 May 2008.....	35

Appendix 3

Tabled Documents	37
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio	37
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government portfolio	37

Appendix 4

Topic Index Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry Portfolio.....	39
Monday 26 May 2008	39
Tuesday 27 May 2008	41

Appendix 5

Topic Index Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government Portfolio	43
Wednesday 28 May 2008	43
Thursday 29 May 2008.....	45

Appendix 6

Changes to Outcome/Output Structure Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	47
---	-----------

Appendix 7

Changes to Departmental Structure Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government.....	49
--	-----------

