

# CHAPTER 1

## Introduction

### Background

1.1 The Energy Efficiency Opportunities Bill 2005 was introduced into the House of Representatives on 14 September 2005 by the Minister for Industry, Tourism and Resources, the Hon. Ian Macfarlane, MP. It passed the House on 3 November 2005 and was introduced into the Senate on 7 November 2005

1.2 On 5 October 2005, on the recommendation of the Senate Standing Committee for the Selection of Bills, the Senate referred the provisions of the Bill to the Economics Legislation Committee for inquiry and report by 7 November 2005.<sup>1</sup>

### Conduct of the inquiry

1.3 The Committee advertised the inquiry nationally and posted details on its internet site. In addition, it wrote to a number of organisations advising them of the inquiry and inviting them to make submissions.

1.4 The Committee received 9 submissions to its inquiry. These are listed at Appendix 1.

1.5 The Committee held a public hearing at Parliament House in Sydney on Friday, 28 October 2005. Witnesses who presented evidence at this hearing are listed in Appendix 2.

1.6 The Hansard of the Committee's hearing and copies of all submissions are tabled with this report. These documents, plus the Committee's report, are also available on the Committee's website at [http://www.apf.gov.au/Senate/committee/economics\\_ctte/energy/index.htm](http://www.apf.gov.au/Senate/committee/economics_ctte/energy/index.htm).

1.7 The Committee thanks those who participated in this inquiry.

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1 Selection of Bills Committee, *Report No. 11 of 2005*.

