



AUSTRALIAN SENATE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT

REFERENCES COMMITTEE

MEDIA RELEASE

Inquiry into management of the Murray Darling Basin – impact of mining coal seam gas

Public Hearing Narrabri Tuesday 2 August 2011

The Senate Rural Affairs and Transport Committee will hold a public hearing in Narrabri on Tuesday 2 August 2011 as part of its inquiry into management of the Murray Darling Basin. The committee is specifically hearing evidence on the impact of mining coal seam gas on the management of the basin.

The hearing is being held in the Auditorium, Crossing Theatre, 117 Tibereena St, Narrabri, commencing at 9:00 am and will be chaired by Senator Bill Heffernan.

The committee has invited the following witnesses to give evidence at the public hearing:

Time	Witness	Sub No.
9:00 am	NSW Farmers Association, Sydney Ms Fiona Simson, <i>President</i> Ms Brianna Casey, <i>Senior Policy Manager</i>	249
10:00 am	Moree Plains Shire Council Mayor Councillor Katrina Humphries	345
10:45 am	Mr James & Ms Natalie Tydd, <i>landholders, Bellata</i>	218 & 238
	Ms Victoria Hamilton, <i>landholder, Wee Waa</i>	223
	Mr Tony Pickard, <i>landholder, Narrabri</i>	207
	Mr Daniel Reardon, <i>landholder, Moree</i>	231
12:15 pm	Caroona Coal Action Group Ms Rosemary Nankivell, <i>Chair</i>	250
	Mullaley Gas Pipeline Accord Mr David Quince, <i>Chairman</i> Mr Donald Parrish Mr Jim Adams	310
1:00 pm	Lunch	

2:00 pm	Ms Carmel Flint, Spokesperson for the Northern Inland Council for the Environment Mr Warrick Jordan, Campaign Manager, The Wilderness Society Newcastle <i>(Nature Conservation Council NSW, The Wilderness Society, Coolong Foundation for Wilderness, Northern Inland Council for the Environment, Friends of the earth, Coonabarabran Local Environment Group & Armidale National Parks Assoc.)</i>	312
2:45 pm	Eastern Star Gas (no submission) Mr Michael Kelly, <i>General Manager Environment</i> Mr Peter Fox, <i>General Manager Stakeholder Relations</i>	
4:15 pm	Cotton Catchment Communities Ms Jane Macfarlane, <i>Programme Manager</i> Mr Guy Roth	344
5:00 pm	Namoi Water Ms Jon-Maree Baker, <i>Executive Officer</i>	100
5:45 pm	Adjournment of Hearing	

Members of the public are welcome to attend the hearing. People who are unable to attend can follow the proceedings using the live audio feed available on the Parliament of Australia website: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>.

A Hansard transcript of the hearing will also be made and will be available on the committee website in due course.

Further information about the committee's inquiry is available on the committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/Senate/committee/rat_cttee/mdb/index.htm or by telephoning the committee secretariat on (02) 62773511. The committee is still accepting submissions to this inquiry. Submissions can be lodged online at the committee website, emailed to rat.sen@aph.gov.au or posted to:

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Rural Affairs and Transport
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600