

## The Senate BUSINESS OF COMMITTEES

This document is issued as a guide to Senators  
Business listed is subject to change

*It should be noted that times allocated for the consideration of outcomes, items and agencies within portfolios are indicative only.*

*Senators, staff and departments should liaise with secretariats on the progress of portfolios during the estimates process.*

### SENATE ECONOMICS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

**Public Hearings: BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 2012-13**

**Monday, 28 May to Thursday, 31 May 2012 and if required  
Friday, 1 June 2012**

**Committee Room 2R1  
Parliament House  
Canberra ACT**

*To be televised on Channel 9 / Radio 98.3  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/News\\_and\\_Events/Watch\\_Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament)*

#### AGENDA

**MONDAY, 28 MAY 2012**

<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio</b>
<b>9.00am - 9.40am</b>	<b>Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO)</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Improved knowledge, innovative capacity and healthcare through nuclear-based facilities, research, training, products, services and advice to Government, industry, the education sector and the Australian population.</b>
<b>9.40am - 9.55am</b>	<b>IP Australia</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Increased innovation, investment and trade in Australia, and by Australians overseas, through the administration of the registrable intellectual property rights system, promoting public awareness and industry engagement, and advising government.</b>

9.55am - 10.55am	<b>Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation (CSIRO)</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Innovative scientific and technology solutions to national challenges and opportunities to benefit industry, the environment and the community, through scientific research and capability development, services and advice.</b>
10.55am - 11.10am	<i>Morning tea</i>
11.10am - 11.35am	<b>Australian Research Council (ARC)</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Growth of knowledge and innovation through managing research funding schemes, measuring research excellence and providing advice.</b>
11.35am - 12.15pm	<b>Office of the Chief Scientist</b>
	<b>Outcome 2: Production, use and awareness of science and research knowledge, by supporting research activity; training and infrastructure; science communication; skill development; and collaboration, within the research sector and between researchers and industry, domestically and internationally.</b>
12.15pm - 1.30pm	<b>Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency (TEQSA)</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Contribute to a high quality higher education sector through streamlined and nationally consistent higher education regulatory arrangements; registration of higher education providers; accreditation of higher education courses; and investigation, quality assurance and dissemination of higher education standards and performance.</b>
1.30pm - 2.30pm	<i>Lunch</i>
2.30pm - 3.15pm	<b>Australian Skills Quality Authority (ASQA)</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Contribute to a high quality vocational education and training sector, including through streamlined and nationally consistent regulation of training providers and courses, and the communication of advice to the sector on improvements to the quality of vocational education and training.</b>
3.15pm – 6.30pm	<b>Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (Tertiary: Outcome 3)</b> [Including the National Advisory for Tertiary Education, Skills and Employment (NATESE)]
<i>(Afternoon tea 4.15pm-4.30pm)</i>	<b>Outcome 3: A growth in skills, qualifications and productivity through funding to improve teaching quality, learning, and tertiary sector infrastructure, international promotion of Australia's education and training sectors, and partnerships with industry.</b>
6.30pm - 7.30pm	<i>Dinner</i>
7.30pm - 8.30pm	<b>Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (Science &amp; Research: Outcome 2)</b> [Including the Australian Astronomical Observatory, and Questacon]
	<b>Outcome 2: Production, use and awareness of science and research knowledge, by supporting research activity; training and infrastructure; science communication; skill development; and collaboration, within the research sector and between researchers and industry, domestically and internationally.</b>
8.30pm - 8.45pm	<i>Tea break</i>

8.45pm - 9.15pm	<b>Skills Australia</b>
	<b>Outcome 3: A growth in skills, qualifications and productivity through funding to improve teaching quality, learning, and tertiary sector infrastructure, international promotion of Australia's education and training sectors, and partnerships with industry.</b>
9.15pm	<b>Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio</b>
9.15pm - 10.45pm	Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (Outcome 1: Resources & Energy, program 1 and 2)
	<b>Outcome 1: The improved strength, competitiveness and sustainability of the resources, energy and tourism industries to enhance Australia's prosperity through implementation of government policy and programs.</b>
10.45pm - 11.00pm	<b>Geoscience Australia</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Informed government, industry and community decision on the economic, social and environmental management of the nation's natural resources through enabling access to geoscientific and spatial information.</b>
11.00pm (approx.)	<i>Adjournment</i>

<b>Proposed breaks for Monday</b>	Morning tea: 10.55am - 11.10am
	Lunch: 1.30pm – 2.30pm
	Afternoon tea: 4.15pm - 4.30pm
	Dinner: 6.30pm - 7.30pm
	Tea break: 8.30pm - 8.45pm

**TUESDAY, 29 MAY 2012**

9.00am	<b>Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education Portfolio (continued)</b>
9.00am - 1.45pm	Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (Industry & Innovation: Outcome 1) [Including Enterprise Connect, AusIndustry, and the National Measurement Institute (NMI)]
<i>(Morning tea 10.15am-10.30am)</i>	<b>Outcome 1: The sustainable development and growth of Australian industry—particularly the manufacturing, services and small business sectors—by encouraging businesses to innovate, collaborate and commercialise ideas, and by delivering business advice, assistance and services.</b>
1.45pm - 2.45pm	<i>Lunch</i>
2.45pm - 3.30pm	Department of Industry, Innovation, Science, Research and Tertiary Education (Small Business)

3.30pm	<b>Resources, Energy and Tourism Portfolio (continued)</b>
3.30pm - 5.00pm	Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism (Outcome 1: Tourism, program 3) <i>appearing with Tourism Australia</i>
	<b>Outcome 1 (RET):</b> The improved strength, competitiveness and sustainability of the resources, energy and tourism industries to enhance Australia's prosperity through implementation of government policy and programs.  <b>Outcome 1 (Tourism Australia):</b> Increase demand for Australia as a destination, strengthen the travel distribution system and contribute to the development of a sustainable tourism industry through consumer marketing, trade development and research activities.
5.00pm	<i>Afternoon tea</i>
5.15pm	<b>Treasury Portfolio</b>
5.15pm - 6.45pm	Australian Securities and Investments Commission (ASIC)
	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Improved confidence in financial market integrity and protection of investors and consumers through research, policy, education, compliance and deterrence that mitigates emerging risks.  <b>Outcome 2:</b> Streamlined and cost-effective interaction and access to information for business and the public, through registry, licensing and business facilitation services.
6.45pm	<i>Dinner</i>
7.45pm - 8.00pm	Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS)
	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Informed decisions, research and discussion within governments and the community by leading the collection, analysis and provision of high quality, objective and relevant statistical information.
8.00pm - 9.15pm	Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC)
	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Lawful competition, consumer protection, and regulated national infrastructure markets and services through regulation, including enforcement, education, price monitoring and determining the terms of access to infrastructure services.
9.15pm	<i>Tea break</i>
9.30pm - 11.00pm	Australian Prudential Regulation Authority (APRA)
	<b>Outcome 1:</b> Enhanced public confidence in Australia's financial institutions through a framework of prudential regulation which balances financial safety and efficiency, competition, contestability and competitive neutrality.
11.00pm (approx.)	<i>Adjournment</i>

<b>Proposed breaks</b>	Morning tea:	10.15am - 10.30am
<b>for Tuesday</b>	Lunch:	1.45pm - 2.45pm
	Afternoon tea:	5.00pm - 5.15pm
	Dinner:	6.45pm - 7.45pm
	Tea break:	9.15pm - 9.30pm

WEDNESDAY, 30 MAY 2012

9.00am	<b>Treasury Portfolio (continued)</b>
9.00am - 2.30pm	<b>The Treasury - Fiscal Group</b>
	<i>Questions relating to climate change modelling may be asked in the first part of this session.</i>
<i>(Morning tea 11.00am-11.15am &amp; Lunch 12.30pm-1.30pm)</i>	<b>Outcome 1: Informed decisions on the development and implementation of policies to improve the wellbeing of the Australian people, including by achieving strong, sustainable economic growth, through the provision of advice to government and the efficient administration of federal financial relations.</b>
2.30pm - 3.00pm	<b>Foreign Investment Review Board</b>
3.00pm - 3.30pm	<b>Commonwealth Grants Commission</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Informed government decisions on fiscal equalization between the States and Territories through advice and recommendations on the distribution of GST revenue and health care grants.</b>
3.30pm - 4.00pm	<b>Inspector-General of Taxation</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Improved tax administration through community consultation, review, and independent advice to government.</b>
4.00pm	<i>Afternoon tea</i>
4.15pm - 11.00pm	<b>The Treasury - Revenue Group**</b>
<i>(Dinner 6.15pm-7.15pm)</i>	<b>Outcome 1: Informed decisions on the development and implementation of policies to improve the wellbeing of the Australian people, including by achieving strong, sustainable economic growth, through the provision of advice to government and the efficient administration of federal financial relations.</b>
<i>(Tea break 9.00pm-9.15pm)</i>	<b>Australian Taxation Office (ATO)**</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Confidence in the administration of aspects of Australia's taxation and superannuation systems through helping people understand their rights and obligations, improving ease of compliance and access to benefits, and managing non-compliance with the law.</b>
	** Treasury – Revenue Group and ATO will be heard together
11.00pm (approx)	<i>Adjournment</i>

<b>Proposed breaks for Wednesday</b>	Morning tea:	11.00am - 11.15am
	Lunch:	12.30pm - 1.30pm
	Afternoon tea:	4.00pm - 4.15pm
	Dinner:	6.15pm - 7.15pm
	Tea break:	9.15pm - 9.30pm

**THURSDAY, 31 MAY 2012**

<b>9.00am</b>	<b>Treasury Portfolio (continued)</b>
<b>9.00am - 2.45pm</b>	<b>The Treasury - Macroeconomic Group</b>
<i>(Morning tea 10.15am-10.30am &amp; Lunch 12.45pm- 1.45pm)</i>	<b>Outcome 1: Informed decisions on the development and implementation of policies to improve the wellbeing of the Australian people, including by achieving strong, sustainable economic growth, through the provision of advice to government and the efficient administration of federal financial relations.</b>
<b>2.45pm - 7.30pm</b>	<b>The Treasury - Markets Group <i>appearing with the Australian Government Actuary</i></b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Informed decisions on the development and implementation of policies to improve the wellbeing of the Australian people, including by achieving strong, sustainable economic growth, through the provision of advice to government and the efficient administration of federal financial relations.</b>
<i>7.30pm - 8.30pm</i>	<i>Dinner</i>
<b>8.30pm - 10.15pm</b>	<b>Productivity Commission</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: Well-informed policy decision-making and public understanding on matters relating to Australia's productivity and living standards, based on independent and transparent analysis from a community-wide perspective.</b>
<b>10.15pm - 11.00pm</b>	<b>Australian Office of Financial Management (AOFM)</b>
	<b>Outcome 1: The advancement of macroeconomic growth and stability, and the effective operation of financial markets, through issuing debt, investing in financial assets and managing debt, investments and cash for the Australian Government.</b>
<i>11pm (approx.)</i>	<i>Adjournment</i>

<b>Proposed breaks</b>	Morning tea:	10.15am - 10.30am
<b>for Thursday</b>	Lunch:	12.45pm - 1.45pm
	Afternoon tea:	4.15pm - 4.30pm
	Dinner:	7.30pm - 8.30pm
	Tea break:	9.00pm - 9.15pm

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