

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee

The committee met on Monday, 11 February 2013 from 9.00 am to 11.00 pm.

The committee called the:

- department and agencies of the Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio, including the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES), the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority, Meat and Livestock Australia, the Australian Livestock Export Corporation Limited, the Australian Fisheries Management Authority and the Australian Egg Corporation Limited.

Among other issues, the following matters were discussed:

- structural changes within the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
- a newly created unit within ABARES to analyse the impacts of climate change and extreme weather
- the legal liability arising from the live cattle export ban
- the use of the *Abel Tasman* vessel as a floating freezer.