

Environment, Communications and the Arts

Environment, Communications and the Arts

1 July 2009 - 31 December 2009

	Matters current as at 1 July 2009	Matters referred during period *	Reports tabled that discharge a reference	Current inquiries as at 31 December 2009
Legislation	2	3	4	1
References	1	4	2	3
Total	3	7	6	4

Number and Hours of Meeting										
	Public	Hrs	Public Estimates	Hrs	Private	Hrs	Insp/Other	Hrs	Total Meetings	Total Hours
Legislation	5	17:42	2	22:01	15	2:07	0	0:00	22	41:50
References	7	22:20	0	0:00	12	3:24	0	0:00	19	25:44
Total	12	40:02	2	22:01	27	5:31	0	0:00	41	67:34

Meetings By State								
	ACT	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	QLD
Legislation	20	0	2	0	0	0	0	0
References	17	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Total	37	1	2	0	0	0	0	1

	Witnesses				Hansard Pages			No of Submissions	No Of Pages	Government Responses
	Televised Hearings	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General			
Legislation	5	140	46	0	275	205	0	237	825	0
References	5	0	0	59	0	0	347	145	1892	2
Total	10	140	46	59	275	205	347	382	2717	2

* Includes referral of Annual Reports x 1

Environment, Communications and the Arts (Legislation)

1 July 2009 to 31 December 2009

Method of appointment

Pursuant to amended Senate Standing Order 25.

Current members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP) <i>(elected Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Simon Birmingham (SA, LP) <i>(elected Deputy Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09

Participating members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator the Hon Eric Abetz (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Judith Adams (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Chris Back (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Guy Barnett (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Cory Bernardi (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Catryna Bilyk (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Sue Boyce (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon George Brandis (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Bob Brown (TAS, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Carol Brown (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Bushby (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Doug Cameron (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Michaelia Cash (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Jacinta Collins (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mathias Cormann (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Alan Eggleston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP)	14.05.09

Senator David Feeney (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Fielding (VIC, FFP)	14.05.09
Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mitch Fifield (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Michael Forshaw (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Furner (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young (SA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gary Humphries (ACT, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Hutchins (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon David Johnston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Barnaby Joyce (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Kroger (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gavin Marshall (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Brett Mason (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Jan McLucas (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nicholas Minchin (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Claire Moore (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Kerry O'Brien (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Stephen Parry (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Polley (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Louise Pratt (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ryan (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion (NT, CLP)	14.05.09
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Glenn Sterle (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Russell Trood (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Nick Xenophon (SA, IND)	14.05.09

Former substitute member

Date of appointment

Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald (QLD, LP) ¹	06.10.09–23.10.09
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¹ Replaced Senator Troeth for the period 6.10.09–23.10.09

Former participating member

Date of appointment

Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)

17.08.09–23.10.09

Inquiries

As at 1 July 2009

- Environment Protection (Beverage Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme) Bill 2009 (referred 17 June 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network Measures No. 1) Bill 2009 (referred 25 June 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

Current inquiries

As at 31 December 2009

- Do Not Call Register Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 [Provisions] (referred 30 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

New references

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2009 [Provisions] (referred 17 September 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Do Not Call Register Legislation Amendment Bill 2009 [Provisions] (referred 30 November 2009—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

Public hearings

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network Measures No. 1) Bill 2009—4 August 2009, Canberra
- Environment Protection (Beverage Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme) Bill 2009—24 August 2009, Melbourne; 7 September 2009, Canberra
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2009 [Provisions]—13 October 2009, Melbourne; 14 October 2009, Canberra
- 2009–2010 Supplementary Budget Estimates—19 & 20 October 2009

Reports tabled

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (National Broadband Network Measures No. 1) Bill 2009 (tabled 17 August 2009)
- Annual Report (No. 2 of 2009) (tabled 9 September 2009)

- Environment Protection (Beverage Container Deposit and Recovery Scheme) Bill 2009 (tabled 17 September 2009)
- Telecommunications Legislation Amendment (Competition and Consumer Safeguards) Bill 2009 [Provisions] (tabled 26 October 2009)

Government responses

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Nil

Estimates

A statistical summary of this Committee's work when considering Estimates appears in Part Four.

Environment, Communications and the Arts (References)

1 July 2009 to 31 December 2009

Method of appointment

Pursuant to amended Senate Standing Order 25.

Current members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Simon Birmingham (SA, LP) <i>(elected Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP) <i>(elected Deputy Chair on 14.05.09)</i>	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09

Substitute members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ¹	20.08.09
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ²	29.10.09

Participating members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator the Hon Eric Abetz (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Judith Adams (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Chris Back (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Guy Barnett (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Cory Bernardi (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Catryna Bilyk (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Sue Boyce (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon George Brandis (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Bob Brown (TAS, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Carol Brown (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Bushby (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Doug Cameron (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09

¹ Replaces Senator Ludlam for the committee's inquiry into sustainable management by the Commonwealth of water resources

² Replaces Senator Ludlam for the committee's inquiry into Australia Post's treatment of injured and ill workers

Senator Michaelia Cash (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck (TAS, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Jacinta Collins (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mathias Cormann (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Alan Eggleston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator David Feeney (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Fielding (VIC, FFP)	14.05.09
Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mitch Fifield (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Michael Forshaw (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Mark Furner (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young (SA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gary Humphries (ACT, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Steve Hutchins (NSW, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon David Johnston (WA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Barnaby Joyce (QLD, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Kroger (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	29.10.09
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Gavin Marshall (VIC, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Brett Mason (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Jan McLucas (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nicholas Minchin (SA, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Claire Moore (QLD, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09
Senator Kerry O'Brien (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Helen Polley (TAS, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Louise Pratt (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator Scott Ryan (VIC, LP)	14.05.09
Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion (NT, CLP)	14.05.09
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)	14.05.09
Senator Glenn Sterle (WA, ALP)	14.05.09
Senator Russell Trood (QLD, LP)	14.05.09
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	14.05.09

Senator Nick Xenophon (SA, IND) 14.05.09

Former substitute members

Date of appointment

Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP) ³	14.05.09–29.10.09
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ⁴	13.08.09–04.12.09
Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP) ⁵	06.10.09–23.10.09

Former participating members

Date of appointment

Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	14.05.09–29.10.09
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	13.08.09–04.12.09
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	06.10.09–23.10.09

Inquiries

As at 1 July 2009

- Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands (referred 4 December 2008)

Current inquiries

As at 31 December 2009

- Sustainable management by the Commonwealth of water resources (referred 20 August 2009)
- Australia Post's treatment of injured and ill workers (referred 29 October 2009) (*Reference varied 18 November 2009*)
- Energy Efficient Homes Package (referred 29 October 2009)

New references

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- The impact of mining operations on the Murray-Darling Basin (referred 12 August 2009)
- Sustainable management by the Commonwealth of water resources (referred 20 August 2009)
- Australia Post's treatment of injured and ill workers, including but not limited to:

³ Replaced Senator Wortley for the committee's inquiry into forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands

⁴ Replaced Senator Ludlam for the committee's inquiry into the impact of mining operations on the Murray-Darling Basin

⁵ Replaced Senator Troeth from 06.10.09–23.10.09

- a) allegations that injured staff have been forced back to work in inappropriate duties before they have recovered from workplace injuries;
 - b) the desirability of salary bonus policies that reward managers based on lost time injury management and the actions of managers to achieve bonus targets;
 - c) the commercial arrangements that exist between Australia Post and InjuryNet and the quality of the service provided by the organisation;
 - d) allegations of compensation delegates using fitness for duty assessments from facility nominated doctors to justify refusal of compensation claims and whether the practice is in breach of the *Privacy Act 1988* and Comcare policies;
 - e) allegations that Australia Post has no legal authority to demand medical assessments of injured workers when they are clearly workers' compensation matters;
 - f) the frequency of referrals to InjuryNet doctors and the policies and circumstances behind the practices;
 - g) the comparison of outcomes arising from circumstances when an injured worker attends a facility nominated doctor, their own doctors and when an employee attends both, the practices in place to manage conflicting medical recommendations in the workplace; and
 - h) any related matters (referred 29 October 2009) (*Reference varied 18 November 2009 to amend paragraph (a)*)
- Energy Efficient Homes Package (referred 29 October 2009)

Public hearings

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands—14 August 2009, Canberra; 2 October 2009, Canberra
- The impact of mining operations on the Murray-Darling Basin—28 September 2009, Gunnedah NSW; 29 September 2009, Oakey QLD; 14 October 2009, Canberra; 19 November 2009, Canberra
- Sustainable management by the Commonwealth of water resources—15 December 2009, Canberra

Reports tabled

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands (tabled 29 October 2009)
- Impact of mining operations on the Murray-Darling Basin (presented out of session on 4 December 2009)

Government responses

1 July 2009–31 December 2009

- Sexualisation of children in the contemporary media (tabled 20 August 2009; report tabled 26 June 2008)
- The effectiveness of the broadcasting codes of practice (tabled 20 August 2009; report tabled 19 June 2008)