



THE SENATE

STANDING COMMITTEE ON RURAL AND REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND TRANSPORT

Senator the Hon Alan Ferguson
President of the Senate
Parliament House
CANBERRA ACT 2600

**Inquiry into the exposure drafts of the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and
the Wheat Export Marketing (Repeal and Consequential Amendments) Bill
2008**

Progress Report

Pursuant to Senate Standing Order 38(7), I present to you the progress report of the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport on the exposure drafts of the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and the Wheat Export Marketing (Repeal and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008.

On 12 March 2008 the Wheat Export Marketing Bill 2008 and the Wheat Export Marketing (Repeal and Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 were referred to the Senate Standing Committee on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport for inquiry and report by 11 April 2008. On 13 March 2008, the Senate moved to extend the reporting date for the inquiry to 24 April 2008.

The committee held three public hearings in Canberra and Perth, hearing evidence from a range of witnesses and receiving a number of submissions. To facilitate further examination of the draft legislation the committee resolved to hold an additional hearing in Canberra on Tuesday 22 April 2008.

At the public hearing held on Tuesday 22 April 2008, a number of questions to witnesses were placed on notice. To allow for the provision of responses to those questions on notice, and to ensure that the complex issues raised during the inquiry, particularly those raised during the last public hearing, are thoroughly considered and appropriately addressed, the committee will present its final report on Wednesday 30 April 2008.

**Senator Glenn Sterle
Chair**

24 April 2008