



Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee
Budget Estimates 2017-18
Monday, 22 May 2017
Daily summary

Here is the summary of today's proceedings in the Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee's Budget Estimates.

The committee met from 9.00 am until 9.00 pm.

The committee called:

- the department and agencies of the Infrastructure and Regional Development portfolio, commencing with Corporate Services Division, followed by Infrastructure Investment and Policy and Research Divisions later in the day. The other agencies called were Australia Rail Track Corporation (ARTC) and Infrastructure Australia.

Due to the committee releasing Corporate Services from the program without giving evidence, the program finished ahead of schedule.

Some areas of interest that the committee covered included:

- Infrastructure Australia's assessment of the merits of a project, including the types of guidelines and modelling criteria used;
- cost and business case for rail;
- the priority status of the Adani project;
- state of current infrastructure;
- plans to future proof rail infrastructure for high speed rail as well as inland rail;
- strategy to encourage investment in cycling infrastructure;
- road safety programs;
- the use of contractors by the department and portfolio agencies; and
- update on Bruce Highway upgrade.