



THE SENATE

ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNICATIONS LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

Environment Protection Reform Bill 2025 and six related bills

**PUBLIC HEARING
Friday 27 February 2026**

**Parliament House - Room 2S1
Canberra**

Time	Witness
8.15 am	<p>Housing Industry Association (<i>Submission 20</i>) Mr Simon Croft, Chief Executive, Industry and Policy</p> <p>UDIA National (<i>Submission 54</i>) Mr Andrew Mihno, Head of Policy and Government Relations Mrs Lucy Shea, Technical Legal Adviser Mr Mitch Taylor, Director 28 South Environmental Mr Gordon Morris, Graduate Environmental Consultant 28 South Environmental</p>
9.00 am	<p>Department of Natural Resources and Environment, Tasmanian Government (<i>Submission 687</i>) Mr Jason Jacobi, Secretary</p>
9.30 am	<p>Australian Forest Products Association (<i>Submission 69</i>) Ms Diana Hallam, Chief Executive Officer Mr Richard Hyett, Deputy Chief Executive Officer, Director of Policy Mr Gordon Neil, Policy Manager</p> <p>Timber NSW (<i>Submission 136</i>) Ms Maree McCaskill, Chief Executive Officer Mr Stuart Coppock, Legal adviser</p> <p>National Farmers' Federation (<i>Submission 68</i>) Mr Warrick Ragg, General Manager, Natural Resource Management</p>
10.15 am	<p>Environment Institute, University of Adelaide (<i>Submission 165</i>) Associate Professor Phillipa McCormack, Future Making Fellow (via videoconference)</p> <p>Australian Conservation Foundation (<i>Submission 13</i>) Mr Brendan Sydes, National Biodiversity Policy Adviser</p> <p>Australian Climate and Biodiversity Foundation (<i>Submission 14</i>) Mr Lyndon Schneiders, Executive Director</p>
11.15 am	Break

Committee Chair: Senator Varun Ghosh

Committee Secretary: Tas Larnach

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11.30 am	<p>Gunditj Mirring Traditional Owners Aboriginal Corporation (<i>Submission 102</i>) Ms Erin Rose, Chief Executive Officer (via videoconference) Ms Denise Lovett, Aboriginal Heritage Officer (via videoconference) Ms Sharna Brown, Nyamat Mirring Senior Project Officer (via videoconference)</p>
12.15 pm	<p>Biodiversity Council (<i>Submission 30</i>) Professor Brendan Wintle, Lead Councillor Ms Lis Ashby, Policy and Innovation Lead</p> <p>Invasive Species Council (<i>Submission 51</i>) Dr Carol Booth, Policy Director (via videoconference) Ms Claire Bookless, Senior Policy Analyst (via videoconference)</p> <p>Wentworth Group of Concerned Scientists Professor Martine Maron, Wentworth Member (via videoconference) Professor Justine Bell-James, Wentworth Member (via videoconference) Dr Celine Steinfeld, Wentworth CEO (via videoconference)</p>
1.00 pm	Break
2.00 pm	<p>Environmental Defenders Office (<i>Submission 65</i>) Ms Rachel Walmsley, Deputy Director, Policy and Law Reform (via videoconference) Ms Rachael Chick, Senior Solicitor, Policy and Law Reform (via videoconference) Ms Revel Pointon, Managing Lawyer</p>
2.30 pm	<p>Minerals Council of Australia (<i>Submission 28</i>) Mr Chris McCombe, General Manager – Sustainability Mr Steven Brown, Principal Adviser Environmental Policy</p> <p>Chamber of Minerals and Energy WA (<i>Submission 11</i>) Mr Aaron Morey, Chief Executive Officer</p>
3.15 pm	<p>Association of Mining and Exploration Companies (AMEC) (<i>Submission 26</i>) Mr Warren Pearce, Chief Executive Officer</p>
4.00 pm	Break
4.15 pm	<p>Australian Local Government Association Mayor Matt Burnett, President (via videoconference) Ms Amy Crawford, Chief Executive Officer (via videoconference)</p>
4.45 pm	<p>Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water (<i>Submission 1</i>) Mr Shane Gaddes, Acting Deputy Secretary Ms Jennifer Kay, Acting Head of Division, NEPA Taskforce Mr Blaine Wentworth, Acting Branch Head, Standards, Offsets and Approvals Reform Branch Ms Anna-Liisa Lahtinen, Acting Branch Head, Reform Strategy and Engagement Branch</p> <p>Threatened Species Scientific Committee (<i>Submission 88</i>) Professor Iain Gordon, Chair</p>
5.45 pm	Adjournment