



Chairman of the Productivity Commission to discuss report into public infrastructure with Committee

The Chairman of the Productivity Commission, Mr Peter Harris AO, will appear at a public hearing on Wednesday 27 August 2014 as part of the House Infrastructure and Communications Committee's inquiry into infrastructure planning and procurement.

Mr Harris will discuss the findings of the Commission's recently released and wide-ranging report into public infrastructure. Conclusions drawn in the Commission's findings and recommendations included that:

- better institutional and governance arrangements are crucial;
- various public and private financing models may have a role to play;
- road-specific institutional and funding reforms are required;
- costs have risen due to a variety of reasons;
- better labour markets must be achieved;
- better data collection is needed; and
- some changes to Infrastructure Australia are required.

Committee Chairman Mrs Jane Prentice MP said that the Productivity Commission's report was a significant step forward in reforming Australia's entire infrastructure framework.

"The Committee's inquiry aims to build upon the substantial body of work developed by the Commission. The Committee is particularly interested in how the complexity of infrastructure planning and procurement processes can be reduced, and how Australia's long-term infrastructure needs can best be met," she said.

Details of the hearing are as follows:

Date: Wednesday 27 August 2014
Time: 8.15am – 9.30am
Place: Committee Room 1R3, Parliament House, Canberra

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chairman (07) 3378 1599 or (02) 6277 4426

For further information, including the full terms of reference and how to prepare a submission: please contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2352, email ic.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at www.aph.gov.au/ic