



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Issued: 27 March 2014

### **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT**

Inquiry into streamlining environmental regulation, 'green tape',  
and one stop shops

*Chair: Alex Hawke MP  
Deputy Chair: Tony Zappia MP*

## **'Green tape' inquiry starts public hearings**

The House Environment Committee will hear today from the Department of the Environment about 'green tape', and one stop shops for environmental assessments and approvals.

Committee Chair, Alex Hawke MP, said 'We hope to find a better balance between maximising development and growth in Australia and providing protection for our unique environment.'

'Developments can be delayed by approvals having to be done twice,' said Mr Hawke. 'We want to learn whether changes to the regulatory framework can reduce delays to development, but still keep Australia green and growing.'

**The hearing is in Parliament House, and will commence at 9.40am on Thursday 27 March.**

Full terms of reference for the inquiry:

The committee will inquire into and report on the impact of 'green tape' and issues relating to environmental regulation and deregulation. The inquiry will have particular regard to:

- jurisdictional arrangements, regulatory requirements and the potential for deregulation;
- the balance between regulatory burdens and environmental benefits;
- areas for improved efficiency and effectiveness of the regulatory framework; and
- legislation governing environmental regulation, and the potential for deregulation.

The Committee is accepting submissions addressing one or more of the terms of reference until **Friday, 11 April 2014**. Further details about how to make a submission can be obtained from the Committee's website at: <http://www.aph.gov.au/greentape>.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Alex Hawke, on (02) 6277 4430 (Parliament House) and (02) 9899 7211 (electorate office)

**For further information:** please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4580, email [environment.reps@aph.gov.au](mailto:environment.reps@aph.gov.au) or visit the committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/environment>