



**MEDIA RELEASE**

Issued: 4 April 2016

**JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON NORTHERN AUSTRALIA**

Inquiry into the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Bill 2016

Chair: Hon Warren Entsch MP

Deputy Chair: Hon Alannah MacTiernan MP

**—Public Hearing—**

**Inquiry into the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Bill 2016**

The Australian Parliament's Northern Australia Committee will hold a public hearing in Canberra on Friday 8 April 2016 as part of its Inquiry into the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility Bill 2016.

The Bill proposes to establish the Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility which would provide up to \$5 billion in concessional financial assistance to infrastructure projects that promote the economic development of Northern Australia.

The Committee Chair, the Hon Warren Entsch MP, said: 'Potentially valuable but smaller infrastructure projects in Northern Australia often find it more challenging to attract investment than equivalent projects in Southern Australia. The Northern Australia Infrastructure Facility is designed to provide loans to projects that already have significant private sector backing but that will not proceed without some additional investment'.

As part of its Inquiry the Committee will hear from the Department of Industry, Innovation and Science, who will have responsibility for implementing the Bill, as well as the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources.

**Where: Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra**

**When: Friday, 8 April 2016, commencing at 9.00 am.**

Hearing programs are available at: [www.aph.gov.au/jscna](http://www.aph.gov.au/jscna)

**For media comment:** Please contact Heather Beck, Media Adviser to the Committee Chair the Hon Warren Entsch MP on 0427 585 668.

**For inquiry information:** Please contact the committee secretariat:

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