



Setting the standard for infrastructure project efficiencies

The House Standing Committee on Infrastructure and Communications will commence a new inquiry investigating ways to improve infrastructure planning and procurement and whether governments are prepared for future challenges they face in delivering major projects.

The inquiry has been established following a referral from the Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP.

Committee Chair Jane Prentice said the Committee believes the inquiry will make a valuable contribution to the national debate about how best to meet the infrastructure needs of the future.

The terms of reference for the inquiry will focus on the following:

1. Initiatives already operating around Australia at local and state government levels that might lower the cost of planning approvals and reduce timeframes for delivery of projects
2. Whether any initiatives considered by the committee are able or appropriate to be implemented on a broader basis, including at Federal level
3. Whether local, state and federal governments are adequately considering the infrastructure challenges that they face and have long-term plans in place to deal with those challenges
4. Whether governments engaging in long-term planning for future infrastructure investment are taking steps to protect the land and corridors that are needed to deliver those infrastructure projects in the future
5. How best to reduce regulatory and other costs that industry faces in competing for infrastructure projects
6. How Australia can increase or deepen the competitive market for infrastructure provision and funding in Australia

The Committee invites interested persons and organisations to make submissions to the inquiry addressing the above terms of reference. **Submissions close on Friday 11 April 2014.**

Further information on the inquiry, including the full terms of reference and how to prepare a submission can be obtained from the Committee's website at www.aph.gov.au/ic or from the Secretariat on (02) 6277 2352.

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

Further information: 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