

MEDIA RELEASE

Issued: 14 June 2011

JOINT STANDING COMMITTEE ON ELECTORAL MATTERS PUBLIC HEARING: INQUIRY INTO THE 2010 FEDERAL ELECTION Chair: Daryl Melham MP Deputy Chair: Hon Alex Somlyay MP

CPSU to appear before Electoral Matters Committee

Federal parliament's Electoral Matters Committee will hear from representatives of the Community and Public Sector Union (CPSU) this week for its inquiry into the conduct of the 2010 federal election.

Wednesday, 15 June 2011

Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House, Canberra

9.45 am Community and Public Sector Union

10.45 am Finish

The CPSU's consultation with its members employed by the Australian Electoral Commission (AEC), and with AEC staff more broadly, revealed a number of difficulties encountered by staff during the 2010 federal election. In particular, the new operating systems utilised for the recruitment and training of polling officials and for roll management, and the impact of these systems on AEC staff.

"We rely on the AEC to manage the Electoral Roll and conduct elections efficiently and effectively, and recognise that the AEC continues to fulfil its role through the hard work and professionalism of its staff at all levels; permanent and polling officials", said Committee Chair, Mr Daryl Melham MP.

"However, unnecessary stress in any work situation is undesirable. We will hear more from the CPSU about the difficulties encountered during the 2010 election, and what steps have been taken to help ensure AEC staff can perform at optimal levels at future elections."

Members of the public are welcome to attend. These hearings will be webcast live at: <u>http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/</u>.

For more information and to follow the progress of the inquiry visit the Committee's webpage: <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/em</u>.

For media comment: Please contact the Committee Chair, Daryl Melham MP on 02 6277 2054 (Parliament House office) or 02 9774 2111 (Electoral office).

For general information: Contact the Inquiry Secretary on 02 6277 2374 or jscem@aph.gov.au.