

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNICATIONS

Inquiry into the National Broadband Network

Issued: 4 May 2011

Chair: Sharon Bird MP Deputy Chair: Paul Neville MP

## NBN inquiry goes West

The House of Representatives Infrastructure and Communications Committee is conducting an inquiry into the *role and potential* of the **National Broadband Network (NBN)**. The Committee will conduct public hearings in **Perth** on Thursday 5 May and Friday 6 May.

Committee Chair Sharon Bird said today that "the Committee is looking forward to hearing from West Australians about how the NBN can contribute to, among many other things, enhanced research outcomes and overcoming the tyranny of distance."

"On Friday we will be conducting a roundtable discussion with four local government and regional organisations, which, in combination, represent 19 West Australian council areas" she added.

"As has been evident in the inquiry to date, the NBN will transform the economy and society and will foster innovation in ways that cannot yet be envisaged."

THURSDAY 5 MAY	
1:00 pm	iiNet
1:45 pm	International Centre for Radio Astronomy Research
2:45 pm	Curtin University
3:30 pm	ICT Industry Collaboration Centre of Western Australia
4:15 pm	TBC
FRIDAY 6 MAY	
	City of Geraldton-Greenough
9:00 am	East Metropolitan Regional Council
(roundtable)	Wheatbelt East Regional Organisation of Councils
	South West Group
11:00 am	1Spatial
11:45 am	NearMap

The hearing programs are as follows:

The hearings will be held in **Room 2 of the Legislative Assembly Committee Office, Level 1, 11 Harvest Terrace, West Perth**. The hearings will also be webcast live (audio only) on: <u>http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/</u>

Further details about the inquiry, including copies of submissions and transcripts of previous hearings, can be obtained from the Committee's website.

**For media comment:** please contact the Committee Chair, Ms Sharon Bird, on (02) 6277 4717 (Parliament House) or (02) 4228 5899 (electorate office)

**For details about the inquiry and hearing arrangements:** contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 2352, email <u>ic.reps@aph.gov.au</u> or visit the Committee's website at <u>http://www.aph.gov.au/ic</u>