

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Standing Committee on Industry and Resources Developing Australia's non-fossil fuel energy industry Issued: 29 November 2006

Chair: The Hon Geoff Prosser MP Deputy Chair: Michael Hatton MP

URANIUM REPORT TO BE RELEASED MONDAY

The strategic importance of Australia's uranium resources

The House of Representatives Industry and Resources Committee will table the report of its case study into the strategic importance of Australia's uranium resources next Monday, 4 December 2006. The 700 page report will be tabled in the House of Representatives shortly after 12.30 pm.

The report will be available on the Committee's website after tabling at: http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/isr/uranium/report.htm

Embargoed copies of the report will be available to members of the Parliament House Press Gallery from the Committee Secretariat suite **R1-108** from **10 am** on 4 December.

The Committee will conduct a media conference following the report's tabling.

Media conference details

Date and Time: 1.15 pm, Monday 4 December 2006 Venue: Parliament House, committee room 1R2

Background information to the inquiry and the Committee's report:

The terms of reference for the case study, which was launched in March 2005, were to inquire into the strategic importance of Australia's uranium resources. The Committee was asked to give particular attention to the: global demand for Australia's uranium resources and associated supply issues; potential implications for global greenhouse gas emission reductions from the further development and export of Australia's uranium resources; and the current regulatory environment of the uranium mining sector.

The Committee also welcomed comments from interested people or organisations in relation to six additional issues: radioactive waste management across the nuclear fuel cycle; adequacy of social impact assessment, consultation and approval processes with traditional owners; health risks to workers and the public from exposure to radiation; adequacy of regulation of uranium mining by the Commonwealth; the extent of federal subsidies and other mechanisms to facilitate uranium mining; and the effectiveness of safeguards regimes in addressing proliferation.

The Committee provides a comprehensive examination of all these issues in its report, after receiving 87 submissions and 19 supplementary submissions. These are available on the Committee's web site. The Committee also received 93 exhibits, which include various technical documents. The Committee listened to 87 individuals and organisations during a total of 13 public hearings in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, Darwin and Canberra from August 2005 to March 2006.

To arrange media comment: please contact the Committee Chairman, the Hon Geoff Prosser MP, on (02) 6277 2055 (Parliament House) or (08) 9791 1146 (Electorate Office) **For further information**: please contact the Committee Secretariat on (02) 6277 4594 or email at ir.reps@aph.gov.au