



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON AGRICULTURE, RESOURCES, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY**
Inquiry into the Australian forestry industry

*Chair: The Hon Dick Adams MP
Deputy Chair: Mr Alby Schultz MP*

The future of forestry

—Public hearings Friday 24 June—

The Institute of Foresters, Timber Communities Australia and Australian Forest Growers will give their views on the future prospects of the Australian forestry industry to a federal parliamentary inquiry in Canberra this Friday.

The House of Representatives Agriculture, Resources, Fisheries and Forestry Committee will be speaking to a range of academics, industry and community groups about the state of the Australian forestry industry. The public hearings will be held on **24 June 2011**, in Committee Room **2R2**, Parliament House, Canberra, commencing at **8.30 am**.

The committee will hear from:

- Timber Communities Australia (submission 35)
- Dr Judith Ajani (submission 1)
- Australian Forest Growers (submission 81)
- Professor Peter Kanowski, Professor Gordon Duff and Associate Professor Gerd Bossinger (submission 75)
- The Institute of Foresters (submission 84)

In its submission, Timber Communities Australia said: "Australia has a trade deficit of over \$2 billion per annum in forest products. The continued development of an environmentally-sound, sustainable and value-adding forest products industry in Australia is vital if we are to reduce this deficit. Reducing the deficit will not only benefit Australia financially; there will be huge social benefits from the jobs created, particularly in rural areas."

The committee was keen to hear from these groups, and expects some lively discussion of a number of issues important to the future of the forestry industry.

Committee Chair Dick Adams said: "The Committee will be hearing from groups of people with a long standing interest and deep understanding of forestry issues. The Committee is seeking solutions that will establish Australian forestry on a firm foundation for a generation to come. Friday's hearings will address a range of important questions, and help point the way to a bright and sustainable future for the forestry industry in Australia."

PUBLIC HEARING—Canberra, Friday 24 June 2011

WHERE: Committee Room 2R2, Parliament House, Canberra
WHEN: Friday 24 June 2011, 8.30am to 12.30pm
WEBCAST: <http://webcast.aph.gov.au/livebroadcasting/>

For media comment: please contact the Committee Chair, the Hon Dick Adams MP, on (02) 6277 4293 or email D.Adams.MP@aph.gov.au

Further information: contact the Inquiry Secretary (02) 6277 4500, email arff.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at <http://www.aph.gov.au/arff>