## MEDIA ALERT

Issued: 10 April 2006

Chair – Mr Barry Wakelin MP Deputy – Hon Dr Carmen Lawrence MP

## Rio Tinto, National Australia Bank and Australia Post attending Indigenous employment inquiry

## Public hearing in Melbourne tomorrow

A federal parliamentary committee will be in Melbourne tomorrow (11 April) to hear from big business, city councils, a union, a training agency and others for its Indigenous employment inquiry.

The House of Representatives Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Affairs Committee is looking at positive Indigenous employment outcomes in both urban and regional areas to help shape future policy development.

The Committee will take evidence from a number of organisations, including Shepparton groups, Australia Post, the National Tertiary Education Union, Rio Tinto and the National Australia Bank. The City of Melbourne, City of Port Phillip, City of Whitehorse, Corrugation Road, Ganbina Koori Economic Employment and Training Agency, and Ms Leah Brown, an Indigenous cadet will also appear.

The public hearing will begin at 9.00am on Tuesday, 11 April, at Parliament House, Spring Street, East Melbourne.

Committee Chairman Barry Wakelin (Member for Grey, SA) said the Committee "welcomes the opportunity to add Victorian successes to its body of evidence on positive Indigenous employment outcomes across Australia".

The Committee will continue to receive submissions and interested persons and organisations are encouraged to contact the secretariat if they wish to participate in the inquiry.

Further details on the inquiry, including the complete terms of reference, background documents, and advice on making submissions can be obtained on the Committee's website at

http://www.aph.gov.au/house/committee/atsia/indigenousemployment/index.htm, or by contacting the committee secretariat on (02) 6277 4559 or emailing atsia.reps@aph.gov.au.

**For media comment**, please contact the Committee Chairman Barry Wakelin on Mobile 0429 900 910 or telephone (08) 8633 1744

For background information, contact the Inquiry Secretariat, Cheryl Scarlett, on mobile 0421 611 182