

Issued: 19 January 2011

Chair: Mr Tony Windsor MP

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN

INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN The River, Our Future, Your Say

Shepparton – participate in a plan for the future

As part of the inquiry into the proposed Murray-Darling Basin plan, the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Regional Australia will be visiting Shepparton in January to meet the people living and working in the Basin. The Committee wants to hear the views of the communities in the area, understand the complexity of the issues faced, and hear community solutions for the Murray-Darling River.

Through December and January the Committee has travelled to a number of regions in the Basin and spoken with representatives from many communities. The Committee looks forward to meeting the people of Shepparton at its fifth public hearing on the evening of Friday 21 January 2011.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

Time: 5.00pm - 9.00pm

Date: Friday 21 January 2011

Venue: Goulburn Valley Hotel - 223 High Street, Shepparton

Committee Chair Mr Tony Windsor MP says "The Committee is getting a firsthand view of the problems faced in these regions. There are no easy answers. This inquiry is about people having their say in planning for the future of the river system and the communities that it sustains, and we are looking for solutions that are balanced and fair. Many communities have provided us with practical and sustainable management suggestions for the Basin. This is a vital part of Australia, and any future plan must preserve that vitality".

The Committee will be reporting mid 2011. More information, including the program of speakers at the public hearings, is available on the website www.aph.gov.au/mdi.

For media comment: contact the Chair's media advisor, Graham Nuttall on 0412 916 040.

For information on the inquiry: contact the Secretariat on (02) 6277 4162 or 0407 406 337, email ra.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's website at http://www.aph.gov.au/mdi