

**MEDIA RELEASE**

Issued: 11 February 2011

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON REGIONAL AUSTRALIA**
INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN*Chair: Mr Tony Windsor MP***INQUIRY INTO THE PROPOSED MURRAY-DARLING BASIN PLAN***The River, Our Future, Your Say***Dubbo – 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 Dubbo in February to meet the people living and working in the Basin. The Committee wants to hear the views of the communities, understand the complexity of the issues faced, and hear community solutions for the Murray-Darling River.

In December 2010 the Committee visited a number of regions around the Broken Hill area, and in January spent 9 days conducting hearings in a number of areas including Murray Bridge, Mildura, Shepparton and Griffith. In this third series of visits, Dubbo is the third stop in a three-day tour of inspections and consultations. The Committee looks forward to meeting the people of Dubbo at its public hearing on Wednesday 16 February 2011.

Details of the meeting are as follows:

Time: 9.15am – 2.30pm
Date: Wednesday 16 February 2011
Venue: Dubbo RSL – Cnr Wingewarra St & Brisbane St

Committee Chair Mr Tony Windsor MP says “People in these regions have been doing it tough. This inquiry is about people having their say in planning for the future of the river system and the communities that it sustains. There have been many positive suggestions from the hard working people in the regions. The Committee is looking forward to speaking directly to communities in the Basin as it seeks to develop a series of balanced and fair solutions.”

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 website at <http://www.aph.gov.au mdi>