

**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE
ON REGIONAL AUSTRALIA***Chair: Mr Tony Windsor MP*INQUIRY INTO THE USE OF 'FLY-IN, FLY-OUT' WORKFORCE PRACTICES IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIA

**INQUIRY INTO USE OF 'FLY-IN, FLY-OUT' AND 'DRIVE-IN, DRIVE-OUT' WORKFORCE PRACTICES
IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIA****FIFO in the Northern Territory: Health Perspectives**

At a public hearing on Wednesday the Regional Australia Committee will be hearing from the Minerals Council of Australia, the Northern Territory Government and the General Practice Network Northern Territory (GPNNT) regarding the use of FIFO workforce practices in the resource, medical and other sectors.

The GPNNT submission states that the use of FIFO/DIDO models is essential to the delivery of primary healthcare throughout the Northern Territory and that whilst the use of resident medical workforces more easily ensures continuity of care, recruitment for long-term resident medical, allied health and dental workforces has proven to be an unsuitable model.

The submission highlights the lack of suitable accommodation and the lack of high level medical and communication infrastructures as key deterrents for medical professionals to practice, either as permanent residents or FIFO/DIDO, in remote communities.

The Chair, Mr Tony Windsor MP, has said, 'The provision of top quality health services to remote and regional communities is a priority of the Committee and a key element of the FIFO inquiry.'

Date: Wednesday, 23 May 2012**Venue:** Committee Room 1R4, Parliament House, Canberra**Time:**
9.45am Minerals Council of Australia (Submission 118)
10.15am Northern Territory Government (Submission 131)
10.45am General Practice Network Northern Territory (Submission 121)**Webcast:** Live on [http://www.aph.gov.au/News and Events/Watch Parliament](http://www.aph.gov.au/News_and_Events/Watch_Parliament) (audio only)All submissions are accessible from the Inquiry's website: www.aph.gov.au/fifo.

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/fifo>