

**Environment, Communications and
the Arts**

Environment, Communications and the Arts

1 July 2008 - 31 December 2008

	Matters current as at 1 July 2008	Matters referred during period *	Reports tabled that discharge a reference **	Current inquiries as at 31 December 2008
Standing Committee	4	7	8 +(1)	3

	Number and Hours of Meeting									
	Public	Hrs	Public Estimates	Hrs	Private	Hrs	Insp/Other	Hrs	Total Meetings	Total Hours
Standing Committee	19	68:22	2	22:35	26	8:15	0	0:00	47	99:12

	Meetings By State							
	ACT	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	QLD
Standing Committee	29	3	6	0	2	2	4	1

	Witnesses				Hansard Pages			No of Submissions	No Of Pages	Government Responses
	Televised Hearings	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General			
Standing Committee	9	136	46	154	283	263	678	714	2331	1

* includes referral of Annual Reports (1)

** includes 1 Interim Report

Environment, Communications and the Arts (Standing)

1 July 2008 to 31 December 2008

Method of appointment

Pursuant to amended Senate Standing Order 25.

Current members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Anne McEwen (SA, ALP) <i>(elected Chair on 14.02.08)</i>	12.02.08
Senator Simon Birmingham (SA, LP) <i>(elected Deputy Chair on 6.08.08)</i>	12.02.08
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	15.10.08
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	01.07.08
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	12.02.08
Senator Louise Pratt (WA, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	24.11.08
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	12.02.08

Substitute members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS) ¹	01.12.08
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ²	04.12.08

Participating members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator the Hon Eric Abetz (TAS, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Judith Adams (WA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Mark Arbib (NSW, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator Guy Barnett (TAS, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Cory Bernardi (SA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Catryna Bilyk (TAS, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	01.12.08
Senator Sue Boyce (QLD, LP)	12.02.08
Senator the Hon George Brandis (QLD, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Bob Brown (TAS, AG)	14.02.08
Senator Carol Brown (TAS, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator David Bushby (TAS, LP)	12.02.08

1 Replaces Senator Boswell for the committee's inquiry into the effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities

2 Replaces Senator Ludlam for the committee's inquiry into the Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008

Senator Doug Cameron (NSW, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator Michaelia Cash (WA, LP)	01.07.08
Senator the Hon Richard Colbeck (TAS, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Jacinta Collins (VIC, ALP)	14.05.08
Senator the Hon Helen Coonan (NSW, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Mathias Cormann (WA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Trish Crossin (NT, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Alan Eggleston (WA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator the Hon Christopher Ellison (WA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator David Feeney (VIC, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator Steve Fielding (VIC, FFP)	13.02.08
Senator Concetta Fierravanti-Wells (NSW, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Mitch Fifield (VIC, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Mary Jo Fisher (SA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Michael Forshaw (NSW, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Mark Furner (QLD, ALP)	01.07.08
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young (SA, AG)	01.07.08
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Gary Humphries (ACT, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Steve Hutchins (NSW, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon David Johnston (WA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Barnaby Joyce (QLD, NATS)	12.02.08
Senator Helen Kroger (VIC, LP)	01.07.08
Senator Scott Ludlam (WA, AG)	04.12.08
Senator the Hon Ian Macdonald (QLD, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Gavin Marshall (VIC, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon Brett Mason (QLD, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)	12.02.08
Senator the Hon Jan McLucas (QLD, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	14.02.08
Senator the Hon Nicholas Minchin (SA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Claire Moore (QLD, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	12.02.08
Senator Kerry O'Brien (TAS, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Helen Polley (TAS, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon Michael Ronaldson (VIC, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Scott Ryan (VIC, LP)	01.07.08
Senator the Hon Nigel Scullion (NT, CLP)	12.02.08
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG)	14.02.08
Senator the Hon Ursula Stephens (NSW, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Glenn Sterle (WA, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Russell Trood (QLD, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Nick Xenophon (SA, IND)	01.07.08

Former members	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Andrew Bartlett (QLD, AD)	13.02.08–30.06.08
Senator the Hon Rod Kemp (VIC, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator Stephen Parry (TAS, LP)	12.02.08–24.11.08
Senator Ruth Webber (WA, ALP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	01.07.08–15.10.08

Former participating members	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Lyn Allison (VIC, AD)	13.02.08–30.06.08
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	12.02.08–15.10.08
Senator George Campbell (NSW, ALP)	12.03.08–30.06.08
Senator Grant Chapman (SA, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator John Hogg (QLD, ALP)	12.03.08–26.08.08
Senator Linda Kirk (SA, ALP)	12.03.08–30.06.08
Senator Ross Lightfoot (WA, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator the Hon Sandy Macdonald (NSW, NATS)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator Kerry Nettle (NSW, AG)	14.02.08–30.06.08
Senator the Hon Kay Patterson (VIC, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator Robert Ray (VIC, ALP)	12.03.08–05.05.08
Senator Natasha Stott Despoja (SA, AD)	13.02.08–30.06.08
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	12.02.08–24.11.08
Senator John Watson (TAS, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08

Inquiries

As at 1 July 2008

- Waste management in Australia, including consideration of the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008 (referred 20 March 2008)
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008 (referred 18 June 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities (referred 18 June 2008)
- Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2] and related matters (referred 25 June 2008)

Current inquiries

As at 31 December 2008

- Effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities (referred 18 June 2008)

- Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008 (referred 4 December 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands (referred 4 December 2008)

New references

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 (referred 1 September 2008)
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2008 (referred 25 September 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008 (referred 25 September 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 (referred 25 September 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Forestry and mining operations on the Tiwi Islands (referred 4 December 2008)
- Water Amendment (Saving the Goulburn and Murray Rivers) Bill 2008 (referred 4 December 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

Public hearings

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Waste management in Australia, including the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008—2 July 2008, Melbourne; 3 July 2008, Sydney; 4 July 2008, Canberra
- Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2]—25 July 2008, Canberra; 28 July 2008, Melbourne; 6 August 2008, Adelaide; 7 August 2008, Perth; 11 August 2008, Brisbane
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008—8 September 2008, Sydney; 9 September 2008, Melbourne; 16 October 2008, Canberra
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008—12 September 2008, Canberra
- 2008–09 Supplementary Budget Estimates—20 & 21 October 2008, Canberra
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008—12 November 2008, Canberra
- Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008—17 & 18 November 2008, Alice Springs; 28 November 2008, Canberra

- Effectiveness of the *Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act 1999* and other programs in protecting threatened species and ecological communities—8 December 2008, Melbourne; 9 December 2008, Canberra; 10 December 2008, Sydney

Reports tabled

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2]—Interim Report (presented out of session 15 August 2008; tabled 26 August 2008)
- Save Our Solar (Solar Rebate Protection) Bill 2008 [No. 2]—Final Report (presented out of session 25 August 2008; tabled 26 August 2008)
- Management of Australia's waste streams (including consideration of the Drink Container Recycling Bill 2008) (tabled 3 September 2008)
- Great Barrier Reef Marine Park and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2008 (tabled 15 September 2008)
- Annual Reports (No. 2 of 2008) (tabled 17 September 2008)
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Radio) Bill 2008 (tabled 13 October 2008)
- Renewable Energy (Electricity) Amendment (Feed-in-Tariff) Bill 2008 (tabled 10 November 2008)
- Broadcasting Legislation Amendment (Digital Television Switch-over) Bill 2008 (tabled 25 November 2008)
- Commonwealth Radioactive Waste Management (Repeal and Consequential Amendment) Bill 2008 (presented out of session 18 December 2008; to be tabled in February 2009)

Government responses

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Indigenous art: Securing the future—Australia's Indigenous visual arts and craft sector (presented out of session 8 August 2008; report tabled 20 June 2007)

Estimates

A statistical summary of this Committee's work when considering Estimates appears in Part Four.

