

**Rural and Regional Affairs
and Transport**

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport

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	5	10	8 +(7)	7

	Number and Hours of Meeting									
	Public	Hrs	Public Estimates	Hrs	Private	Hrs	Insp/Other	Hrs	Total Meetings	Total Hours
Standing Committee	18	92:08	2	21:07	26	7:37	0	0:00	46	120:52

76

	Meetings By State							
	ACT	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	NT	QLD
Standing Committee	42	0	0	0	2	1	0	1

	Witnesses				Hansard Pages			No of Submissions	No Of Pages	Government Responses
	Televised Hearings	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General	Estimates	Other (Bills)	General			
Standing Committee	18	178	0	233	273	0	1495	320	2594	2

* includes referral of Annual Reports (1)

** includes 7 Interim Reports

Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport (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 Glenn Sterle (WA, ALP) <i>(elected Chair on 13.02.08)</i>	12.02.08
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG) <i>(elected Deputy Chair on 27.08.08)</i>	23.08.08
Senator the Hon Bill Heffernan (NSW, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Annette Hurley (SA, ALP)	12.02.08
Senator Steve Hutchins (NSW, ALP)	12.02.08
Senator Julian McGauran (VIC, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Kerry O'Brien (TAS, ALP)	12.02.08
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	24.09.08

Substitute members	<i>Date of appointment</i>
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ¹	03.09.08
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ²	18.09.08

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 Simon Birmingham (SA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Mark Bishop (WA, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon Ronald Boswell (QLD, NATS)	12.02.08
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
Senator Doug Cameron (NSW, ALP)	01.07.08

1 Replaces Senator Milne for the committee's inquiry into the management of the Murray-Darling Basin system

2 Replaces Senator Milne for the committee's inquiry into natural resource management and conservation challenges

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 Gary Humphries (ACT, LP)	12.02.08
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)	01.07.08
Senator Kate Lundy (ACT, ALP)	12.03.08
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 Anne McEwen (SA, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon Jan McLucas (QLD, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	03.09.08
Senator the Hon Nicholas Minchin (SA, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Claire Moore (QLD, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Stephen Parry (TAS, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Marise Payne (NSW, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Helen Polley (TAS, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Louise Pratt (WA, ALP)	01.07.08
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)	23.08.08
Senator the Hon Ursula Stephens (NSW, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator the Hon Judith Troeth (VIC, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Russell Trood (QLD, LP)	12.02.08
Senator Dana Wortley (SA, ALP)	12.03.08
Senator Nick Xenophon (SA, IND)	01.07.08

Former members	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Fiona Nash (NSW, NATS)	12.02.08–24.09.08
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) (Deputy Chair 13.02.08–26.06.08)	14.02.08–23.08.08

Former substitute members	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Don Farrell (SA, ALP) ³	15.09.08–12.12.08
Senator Rachel Siewert (WA, AG) ⁴	11.11.08–21.11.08

Former participating members	<i>Term of appointment</i>
Senator Lyn Allison (VIC, AD)	13.02.08–30.06.08
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 the Hon Rod Kemp (VIC, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
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 Christine Milne (TAS, AG)	14.02.08–23.08.08
Senator Andrew Murray (WA, AD)	20.03.08–30.06.08
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 John Watson (TAS, LP)	12.02.08–30.06.08
Senator Ruth Webber (WA, ALP)	12.03.08–30.06.08
Senator John Williams (NSW, NATS)	01.07.08–24.09.08

Inquiries

As at 1 July 2008

- Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector (re-referred 14 February 2008)
- Concerns in relation to meat marketing, with particular reference to the need for effective supervision of national standards and controls and the national harmonisation of regulations applying to the branding and marketing of meat (referred 19 March 2008)
- Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and related matters (adopted by committee 29 May 2008)
- Natural resource management and conservation challenges (referred 26 June 2008)

3 Replaced Senator O'Brien for the period 15 September 2008 to 12 December 2008

4 Replaced Senator Milne for the committee's inquiry into the Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]

- Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning Carbon Sink Forests (referred 26 June 2008)

Current inquiries

As at 31 December 2008

- Concerns in relation to meat marketing, with particular reference to the need for effective supervision of national standards and controls and the national harmonisation of regulations applying to the branding and marketing of meat (referred 19 March 2008)
- Natural resource management and conservation challenges (referred 26 June 2008)
- Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (referred 27 August 2008)
- Implications for the long-term sustainable management of the Murray-Darling Basin system (referred 27 August 2008)
- Establishment of an Australian Football League team for Tasmania (referred 28 August 2008)
- Issues relating to the import risk analysis (IRA) for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines (referred 27 November 2008)
- Public passenger transport infrastructure and services in Australia (referred 4 December 2008)

New references

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (referred 27 August 2008)
- Implications for the long-term sustainable management of the Murray-Darling Basin system (referred 27 August 2008)
- Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008—to be included in water management inquiry for Coorong and Lower Lakes (referred 28 August 2008)
- Establishment of an Australian Football League team for Tasmania (referred 28 August 2008)
- Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008 (referred 4 September 2008)
- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [Provisions] and the Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (referred 15 October 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)
- Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (referred 15 October 2008—through the Selection of Bills Committee)

- Issues relating to the import risk analysis (IRA) for the importation of Cavendish bananas from the Philippines (referred 27 November 2008)
- Public passenger transport infrastructure and services in Australia (referred 4 December 2008)

Public hearings

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector—1 July 2008, Canberra
- Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority and related matters—2 July 2008, Canberra; 3 July 2008, Canberra
- Meat marketing—9 July 2008, Canberra
- Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning carbon sink forests—24 July 2008, Canberra; 18 August 2008, Brisbane; 11 September 2008, Canberra
- Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes—9 September 2008, Canberra; 10 September 2008, Adelaide; 18, 19 & 26 September 2008, Canberra
- Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—24 September 2008, Canberra
- Natural resource management and conservation challenges—10 October 2008, Perth; 17 October 2008, Canberra
- 2008–09 Supplementary Budget Estimates—20 & 21 October 2008, Canberra
- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [Provisions] and the Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]—10 November 2008, Canberra
- Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]—12 & 13 November 2008, Canberra

Reports tabled

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and related matters—Interim Report (presented out of session 9 July 2008; tabled 26 August 2008)
- Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning carbon sink forests—Interim Report (presented out of session 22 August 2008; tabled 26 August 2008)
- Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector—Interim Report (tabled 4 September 2008)
- Meat Marketing—Interim Report (tabled 4 September 2008)

- Administration of the Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and related matters—Final Report (tabled 18 September 2008)
- Implementation, operation and administration of the legislation underpinning carbon sink forests—Final Report (tabled 23 September 2008)
- Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—Interim Report (presented out of session on 3 October 2008; tabled 13 October 2008)
- Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008—Interim Report (presented out of session on 3 October 2008; tabled 13 October 2008)
- Water management in the Coorong and Lower Lakes (including consideration of the Emergency Water (Murray-Darling Basin Rescue) Bill 2008—Final Report (presented out of session on 10 October 2008; tabled 13 October 2008)
- Annual Reports (No. 2 of 2008) (tabled 13 November 2008)
- Horse Disease Response Levy Bill 2008; Horse Disease Response Levy Collection Bill 2008; and Horse Disease Response Levy (Consequential Amendments) Bill 2008—Final Report (tabled 13 November 2008)
- Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Interim Report (presented out of session on 19 November 2008; tabled 24 November 2008)
- Water Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions]—Final Report (presented out of session on 21 November 2008; tabled 24 November 2008)
- Interstate Road Transport Charge Amendment Bill (No. 2) 2008 [Provisions] and the Road Charges Legislation Repeal and Amendment Bill 2008 [Provisions] (presented out of session on 21 November 2008; tabled 24 November 2008)
- Climate change and the Australian agricultural sector—Final report (tabled 4 December 2008)

Government responses

1 July 2008–31 December 2008

- An appropriate level of protection? The importation of salmon products: A case study of the administration of Australian Quarantine and the impact of international trade arrangements (report tabled 5 June 2000); Biosecurity Australia's import risk analysis for pig meat (report tabled 13 May 2004); Administration of Biosecurity Australia: Revised draft import risk analysis for bananas from the Philippines (report tabled 17 March 2005); Administration of Biosecurity Australia: Revised draft import risk analysis for apples from New Zealand (report tabled 17 March 2005); The administration by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry of the citrus canker outbreak (report tabled 20 June 2006) (response tabled 25 September 2008)

- Options for additional water supplies for South East Queensland (report tabled 16 August 2007) (response tabled 4 December 2008)

Estimates

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

