

## **Environment and Communications Committee**

The Committee met on Tuesday 19 October 2010, from 9.04 am until 11.00 pm.

The Committee called:

- The Department (in continuation) and agencies of the Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities portfolio, including the Murray-Darling Basin Authority and the National Water Commission
- The Department and agencies of the Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy portfolio, including Australia Post, Special Broadcasting Service, Australian Communications and Media Authority and the NBN Co.

Among other issues, the main issues discussed were matters relating to the:

- Timing of the return, and content, of answers to Questions on Notice (Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy)
- *Guide to the Proposed Basin Plan*, including how the Authority determined the water requirements for the Basin, community consultation, further studies and release date for the second volume of the Guide (Murray-Darling Basin Authority)
- Reintroduction of the legislation to separate the wholesale, network and retail functions of Telstra (Department of Broadband, Communications and the Digital Economy)
- Conversion of ADSL models in the context of the NBN fibre network (NBN Co.)