

The Senate

Rural and Regional
Affairs and Transport
Legislation Committee

Annual reports (No. 1 of 2010)

March 2010

© Commonwealth of Australia

ISBN 978-1-74229-252-6

This document was produced from camera-ready copy prepared by the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee, and printed by the Senate Printing Unit, Department of the Senate, Parliament House, Canberra.

Membership of the Committee

Members

Senator Glenn Sterle	ALP, Western Australia	Chair
Senator Fiona Nash	NPA, New South Wales	Deputy Chair
Senator the Hon. Bill Heffernan	LP, New South Wales	
Senator Steve Hutchins	ALP, New South Wales	
Senator Kerry O'Brien	ALP, Tasmania	
Senator Rachel Siewert	AG, Western Australia	

Participating Members

Senator Abetz	Senator Cash	Senator Furner	Senator Milne
Senator Adams	Senator Colbeck	Senator Hanson-Young	Senator Minchin
Senator Back	Senator Collins	Senator Humphries	Senator Moore
Senator Barnett	Senator Coonan	Senator Hurley	Senator Parry
Senator Bernardi	Senator Cormann	Senator Johnston	Senator Payne
Senator Bilyk	Senator Crossin	Senator Joyce	Senator Polley
Senator Birmingham	Senator Eggleston	Senator Kroger	Senator Pratt
Senator Bishop	Senator Farrell	Senator Ludlam	Senator Ronaldson
Senator Boswell	Senator Feeney	Senator Lundy	Senator Ryan
Senator Boyce	Senator Ferguson	Senator Macdonald	Senator Scullion
Senator Brandis	Senator Fielding	Senator McEwen	Senator Troeth
Senator B Brown	Senator Senator	Senator McGauran	Senator Trood
Senator C Brown	Fierravanti-Wells	Senator McLucas	Senator Williams
Senator Bushby	Senator Fifield	Senator Marshall	Senator Wortley
Senator Cameron	Senator Fisher	Senator Mason	Senator Xenophon
	Senator Forshaw		

Committee Secretariat

Ms Jeanette Radcliffe, Secretary
Ms Jenene James, Research Officer

PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

phone: (02) 6277 3511
fax: (02) 6277 5811
e-mail: rrat.sen@aph.gov.au
internet: www.aph.gov.au/senate_rrat

Table of Contents

Membership of the Committee	iii
List of Abbreviations	vii
Chapter 1.....	1
 Overview	1
Terms of reference.....	1
Purpose of annual reports	2
Requirements	2
Reports referred to the committee	2
Reports not examined	3
Timeliness.....	4
Comments on reports.....	6
Senate remarks on annual reports.....	10
Comment on significant matters.....	10
 Chapter 2.....	11
 Annual reports of departments	11
Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry	11
Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government	16
 Chapter 3.....	21
 Annual reports of agencies	21
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio	21
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government portfolio	25

Appendix 1	29
List of annual reports referred to the committee during the period 1 May 2009 to 31 October 2009	29
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio	29
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government portfolio	32
Appendix 2	35
List of annual reports tabled after 31 October 2009	35
Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry portfolio	35
Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development and Local Government portfolio	37