

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Budget Estimates 2009-2010

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Terms of Reference

1. That upon tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2009-2010 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That the committees consider the Budget Estimates in accordance with the allocation of portfolios to the committees.
3. That the initial hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: Monday 14 September 2009

GPSC 1	Roads	9.15 am - 11.15 am
GPSC 2	Health, Central Coast	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Ports and Waterways	11.30 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Finance, Infrastructure, Regulatory Reform	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC 2	Ageing, Disability Services	2.00 pm - 4.30 pm
GPSC 2	Aboriginal Affairs	4.45 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 1	The Legislature	5.15 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Two: Tuesday 15 September 2009

GPSC 1	Treasury	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 3	Local Government	9.15 am - 11.45 am
GPSC 3	Mental Health	12.00 pm - 1.00 pm
GPSC 1	Premier	2.00 pm - 5.00 pm
GPSC 3	Attorney General, Industrial Relations	2.00 pm - 3.45 pm
GPSC 3	Corrective Service, Public Sector Reform and Special Minister of State	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 1	Arts	5.15 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Three: Wednesday 16 September 2009

GPSC 2	Education and Training, Women	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 4	Fair Trading, Citizenship	9.15 am - 11.00 pm
GPSC 4	Emergency Services, Small Business	11.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 2	Education and Training, Women (continued)	2.00 pm - 2.45 pm
GPSC 4	Planning, Redfern Waterloo	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 2	Community Services	3.00pm - 6.00 pm

Day Four: Thursday 17 September 2009

GPSC 4	Transport, Illawarra	9.15 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 5	Primary Industries, Mineral Resources	9.15 am - 11.45 am
GPSC 5	Commerce	12.00 pm - 1.00 pm
GPSC 4	Science & Medical Research, Health (Cancer)	2.00 pm - 3.45 pm
GPSC 5	Climate Change and the Environment	2.00 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 4	Tourism, Hunter	4.00 pm - 6.00 pm

Day Five: Friday 18 September 2009

GPSC 3	Lands, Rural Affairs	9.15 am - 10.15 am
GPSC 5	Energy	9.15 am - 11.30 am
GPSC 3	Police	10.30 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 5	State Development	11.45 am - 1.00 pm
GPSC 3	Gaming and Racing, Sport and Recreation	2.00 pm - 4.00 pm
GPSC 5	Water, Regional Development	2.00 pm - 4.15 pm
GPSC 3	Juvenile Justice, Volunteering, Youth, Veteran's Affairs	4.15 pm - 6.00 pm
GPSC 5	Housing, Western Sydney	4.30 pm - 6.00 pm

4. That an initial round of supplementary hearings be scheduled as follows:

Day One: 16 November 2009

GPSC 1

GPSC 2

Day Two: 17 November 2009

GPSC 1

GPSC 3

Day Three: 18 November 2009

GPSC 4

GPSC 2

Day Four: 19 November 2009

GPSC 4

GPSC 5

Day Five: 20 November 2009

GPSC 5

GPSC 3

5. That the committees may hold additional supplementary hearings after 20 November 2009 as required.
6. That each scheduled day for the initial round of hearings will begin at 9:15 am and conclude by 6:00 pm.
7. The committees must hear evidence in public.
8. The committees may ask for explanations from Ministers in the House, or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure.
9. There is no provision under this resolution for a Minister to make an opening statement before the committee commences questioning
10. A daily Hansard record is to be published as soon as practicable after each day's proceedings.
11. The committees are to present a final report to the House by the last sitting day of the first sitting week in March 2010.
12. Members may lodge questions on notice with the Clerk to the committee during a Budget Estimates hearing and up to two days following.
13. All answers to questions taken on notice during the hearing, and questions on notice lodged up to two days following the hearing, must be provided within 21 days, or as otherwise determined by the committee.

The terms of reference were referred to the Committee by the House on 27 November 2008, see *LC Minutes* (27/11/2008) 928-929, amended by *LC Minutes* (23/06/2009) 1253-1255

Committee membership

Mr Ian Cohen MLC	The Greens	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Rick Colless MLC	The Nationals	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Robert Brown MLC	The Shooters Party	
The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Charlie Lynn MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Lynda Voltz MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Helen Westwood MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

The Hon Greg Donnelly MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Christine Robertson MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Ian West MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Kayee Griffin MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Henry Tsang MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Eddie Obeid MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon John Ajaka MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon David Clarke MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Matthew Mason-Cox MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Greg Pearce MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Duncan Gay MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals
The Hon Melinda Pavey MLC	The Nationals
Dr John Kaye MLC	The Greens
Ms Sylvia Hale MLC	The Greens

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Chair's Foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Budget Estimates 2009-2010. This annual Inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Council.

During the initial round of hearings the Committee held seven hearings, receiving 15 hours of evidence, to examine the portfolio areas of Primary Industries, Mineral Resources, Commerce, Climate Change and the Environment, Energy, State Development, Water, Regional Development, Housing and Western Sydney.

On behalf of the Committee, I would like to thank the Ministers and their officers who assisted the Committee during this important Inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members for their contributions to the Inquiry process.



Mr Ian Cohen MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

Referral of the 2009-2010 Budget Estimates

- 1.1 On 27 November 2008, the Legislative Council resolved ‘that the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2009-2010 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the General Purpose Standing Committees for inquiry and report.’¹
- 1.2 The resolution (referred to as the Budget Estimates Resolution) required each committee to examine the Budget Estimates for the relevant portfolios and report to the House by the last sitting day of the first sitting week in March 2010.²

Hearings

- 1.3 The Committee held seven public hearings as follows:
- Thursday 17 September 2009 – Primary Industries, Mineral Resources
 - Thursday 17 September 2009 – Commerce
 - Thursday 17 September 2009 – Climate Change and the Environment
 - Friday 18 September 2009 – Energy
 - Friday 18 September 2009 – State Development
 - Friday 18 September 2009 – Water, Regional Development
 - Friday 18 September 2009 – Housing, Western Sydney.
- 1.4 A brief summary of the key issues raised during the hearings is contained in Chapter 2.

Transcripts

- 1.5 Transcripts of the hearings are available on the Committee’s web page at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc5.

Questions on notice

- 1.6 Questions taken on notice, and the answers to these questions, are also available on the Committee’s web page.

¹ *LC Minutes* (27/11/2008) 928-929

² *LC Minutes* (27/11/2008) 928-929, amended by *LC Minutes* (23/06/2009) 1253-1255

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

This chapter provides a brief summary by portfolio of the key issues raised during the hearings.

Primary Industries, Mineral Resources

2.1 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Primary Industries and Mineral Resources was held on Thursday 17 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Bait fish monitoring program
- NSW Marine Parks
- Shark Smart program
- Minimum tillage program
- Participation in ProFarm training courses
- Clean Coal Fund
- Recreational fisheries management and the number of fisheries compliance officers
- Eradication of feral animals from State forests
- NSW Government funding for the National Centre for Rural Greenhouse Gas Research
- Reforms to the *Plantations and Reafforestation Act 1999*
- Agricultural research centres
- Hazard reduction in State forests
- Private game reserves
- Testing program for bovine Johne's disease
- Logging of camphor laurel trees on the North Coast
- Regional Review of River Red Gums by the Natural Resources Commission.

Commerce

2.2 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Commerce was held on Thursday 17 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Cost of temporary employment contracts
- Impact of the Mini Budget on the Department of Commerce
- The NSW Government Radio Network
- Code of Practice for Procurement

- Introduction of the Microsoft 7 operating system
- Transfer of the Teacher Housing Authority to Department of Commerce
- The achievements of StateFleet.

Climate Change and the Environment

2.3 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Climate Change and the Environment was held on Thursday 17 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Numbers of visitors to National Parks and visitor tracking surveys
- Methods for the eradication of feral animals in National Parks
- Issues associated with Marine Parks
- Waste recovery initiatives
- Government actions to address climate change
- Feed-in tariffs for households generating renewable energy
- The environment levy and impact on landfill rates
- Grey-headed flying fox management plans
- Current status of pollution control and management policy and action
- Joint management of National Parks and relations between Department of Environment Climate Change and Water (DECCW) and Aboriginal communities
- Issues associated with the Floodplain Management Authority
- Status of plans to re-inundate Hexham Swamp.

Energy

2.4 A hearing to examine the portfolio of Energy was held on Friday 18 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Privatisation of electricity assets
- Electricity prices
- Proposed new power stations
- Carbon pollution reduction scheme
- Energy efficiency initiatives.

State Development

2.5 A hearing to examine the portfolio of State Development was held on Friday 18 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- New NSW Government business offices in China, India and United Arab Emirates
- Review of departmental advisory committees
- World Rally Championship
- V8 Super Car Race at Sydney Olympic Park.

Water, Regional Development

2.6 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Water and Regional Development was held on Friday 18 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- NSW Office of Water restructure and reporting structure
- Desalination plant at Botany Bay
- Bungendore wind farm
- *Water Management Amendment Act 2008*
- Metering program
- Strategic Compliance Program in Macquarie Valley
- Commonwealth Sustainable Rural Water Use and Infrastructure grants
- State Plan Priority E4 target and performance indicators
- Riverine groundwater dependant ecosystems
- Tillegra Dam
- Water and sewage services in the Hunter region
- Water recycling investment and stormwater recycling in Orange
- Reform agenda in Murray-Darling water basin
- Toorale Station water entitlements and usage
- Water buybacks
- Fixed water charges
- Lachlan River flow
- Chaffey Dam upgrade
- Fish passages in Upper Nepean
- Cold water pollution from Glenbawn Dam
- Funding for the promotion of regional areas and regional business.

Housing, Western Sydney

2.7 A hearing to examine the portfolios of Housing and Western Sydney was held on Friday 18 September 2009. The following issues were raised:

- Housing arrangements for Mr Dennis Ferguson
- Homeless Persons Information Centre
- Supported Accommodation Assistance Program
- Contractual arrangement with The Cornish Group
- Common Ground project
- Social housing for women affected by domestic violence
- Community housing
- V8 Super Car Race at Sydney Olympic Park
- Programs to increase employment in Western Sydney
- Residences built under the Federal Government's stimulus package.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

1. Primary Industries, Mineral Resources – Thursday 17 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Ian Macdonald MLC	Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Mineral Resources
Dr Richard Sheldrake	Director General, Industry and Investment NSW
Ms Renata Brooks	A/Deputy Director General, Primary Industries, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Nick Roberts	Deputy Director General and Chief Executive Officer, Forests NSW, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Alan Coutts	Deputy Director General and Chief Executive Officer, NSW Food Authority, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Brad Mullard	Executive Director, Mineral Resources, Industry and Investment NSW

2. Commerce – Thursday 17 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Jodi McKay MP	Minister for Commerce
Mr Graeme Head	Director General, Department of Services, Technology and Administration
Mr Sajeev George	Acting Chief Financial Officer, Department of Commerce

3. Climate Change and the Environment – Thursday 17 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Robertson MLC	Minister for Climate Change and the Environment
Ms Lisa Corbyn	Director General, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
Mr Simon Smith	Deputy Director General (Climate Change Policy and Programs), Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
Ms Sally Barnes	Deputy Director General (Parks and Wildlife), Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water

4. Energy – Friday 18 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Robertson MLC	Minister for Energy
Mr Andrew Lewis	Director, Energy Supply Issues Management, Industry and Investment NSW
Ms Katharine Hole	Director, Energy Strategy and Reform, Industry and Investment NSW
Ms Karen Smith	Executive Director, Energy and Legal, Industry and Investment NSW
Dr Richard Sheldrake	Director General, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Mark Duffy	Deputy Director General, Minerals and Energy, Industry and Investment NSW

5. State Development – Friday 18 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Ian Macdonald MLC	Minister for State Development
Mr Barry Buffier	Deputy Director General, State and Regional Development and Tourism, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Warwick Glenn	Executive Director, Investment Division, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Bryan Hardman	Chief Executive Officer, Homebush Motor Racing Authority, Industry and Investment NSW
Dr Richard Sheldrake	Director General, Industry and Investment NSW

6. Water, Regional Development – Friday 18 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Phillip Costa MP	Minister for Water and Minister for Regional Development
Mr David Harriss	Commissioner for Water, NSW Office of Water
Ms Debra Bock	Chief Financial Officer, NSW Office of Water
Ms Kerry Schott	Managing Director, Sydney Water Corporation
Mr George Warne	Chief Executive Officer, State Water Corporation
Mr John O'Hearn	General Manager, Business Strategy and Communications, Hunter Water Corporation
Mr Michael Bullen	Chief Executive, Sydney Catchment Authority
Mr Barry Buffier	Deputy Director-General, Industry and Investment NSW
Mr Michael Cullen	Executive Director – Enterprise, Small Business and Regional Development, Industry and Investment NSW

7. Housing, Western Sydney – Friday 18 September 2009

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon David Borger MP	Minister for Housing and Minister for Western Sydney
Mr Mike Allen	Chief Executive, Housing NSW, Department of Human Services and A/Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing Office
Ms Carol Mills	Director-General, Communities NSW
Mr Alan Marsh	Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Mr Nick Hubble	General Manager, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
Ms Jane Moxon	Deputy Regional Coordinator, Office of the Minister for Western Sydney
Ms Suellen Fitzgerald	Director, Western Sydney Parklands

Appendix 2 Tabled documents

Thursday 17 September 2009

Public Hearing, Room 814/815, Parliament House

1. *Budgeted expenses compared with NSW Reserve System Area graph* – Tendered by Ms Sally Barnes, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
2. *NSW State Parks and Wildlife* – Tendered by Hon Robert Brown MLC
3. *NSW National Parks list* – Tendered by Mr Ian Cohen MLC
4. Graph 1 compiled from *Waste and Recycling in Australia, Final Report (2008)*, Hyder Consulting –Tendered by Mr Ian Cohen MLC
5. Graph 2 compiled from *Waste and Recycling in Australia, Final Report (2008)*, Hyder Consulting –Tendered by Mr Ian Cohen MLC

Appendix 3 Minutes

Minutes No. 28

Thursday, 17 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9am

1. Members present

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Rick Colless (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Mr Duncan Gay (Lynn)

Mr Eddie Obeid (Voltz)

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Obeid to substitute for Ms Voltz
- Mr Gay to substitute for Mr Lynn.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Macdonald, Minister for Primary Industries and Minister for Mineral Resources, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. Conduct of hearing

Allocation of question time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Brown: That for the initial round of hearings into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010, the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition, Cross Bench and Government members, in that order, with 20 minutes allocated to each.

Publication of answers to questions on notice

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Colless: That, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the Committee authorise the Clerk of the Committee to publish the answers provided to questions on notice, except those answers for which a confidentiality is requested, after these answers have been circulated to committee members.

Points of order

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Gay: That at the Chair's discretion, the clock be stopped during arguments on points of order.

5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Macdonald that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Dr Richard Sheldrake, Director General, Industry and Investment NSW
- Ms Renata Brooks, A/Deputy Director General, Primary Industries, Industry and Investment NSW
- Mr Nick Roberts, Deputy Director General and Chief Executive Officer, Forests NSW, Industry and Investment NSW

- Mr Alan Coutts, Deputy Director General and Chief Executive Officer, NSW Food Authority, Industry and Investment NSW
- Mr Brad Mullard, Executive Director, Mineral Resources, Industry and Investment NSW.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Primary Industries and Mineral Resources open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 11.43 am. The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11:43 am until Thursday, 17 September 2009 at 12 noon.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 29

Thursday, 17 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 12 noon

1. Members present

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr David Clarke (*Colless*)

Mr Robert Brown

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Mr Greg Pearce (*Lynn*)

Mr Greg Donnelly (*Voltz*)

Ms Helen Westwood

Dr John Kaye (*participating*)

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Donnelly to substitute for Ms Voltz
- Mr Clarke to substitute for Mr Colless
- Mr Pearce to substitute for Mr Lynn.

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that the following member would be attending the meeting as a participating member:

- Dr Kaye.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 14 September 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister McKay, Minister for Commerce, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.
- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Tebbutt, Deputy Premier and Minister for Commerce, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

5. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister McKay that she did not need to be sworn, as she had sworn an oath to her office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Graeme Head, Director General, Department of Services, Technology and Administration
- Mr Sajeev George, Acting Chief Financial Officer, Department of Commerce.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Commerce open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 1.03 pm. The public and media withdrew.

6. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 1:03 pm until Thursday, 17 September 2009 at 2.00 pm.

Beverly Duffy

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 30

Thursday, 17 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.01 pm

1. **Members present**

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Rick Colless (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown

Ms Christine Robertson (Catanzariti)

Ms Catherine Cusack (Lynn)

Mr Eddie Obeid (Voltz)

Ms Helen Westwood

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Robertson to substitute for Mr Catanzariti
- Mr Obeid to substitute for Ms Voltz
- Ms Cusack to substitute for Mr Lynn.

3. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 14 September 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Robertson, Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.
- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Tebbutt, Deputy Premier and Minister for Climate Change and the Environment, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Robertson that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Ms Lisa Corbyn, Director General, Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
- Mr Simon Smith, Deputy Director General (Climate Change Policy and Programs), Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water
- Ms Sally Barnes, Deputy Director General (Parks and Wildlife), Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Climate Change and the Environment open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

Ms Sally Barnes tendered the following document:

- Graph titled 'Budgeted expenses compared with NSW reserve system area'.

Mr Robert Brown tendered the following document:

- Document titled NSW State Parks and Wildlife.

Mr Ian Cohen tendered the following documents:

- List of NSW National Parks
- Document titled 'Graph 1' compiled from 'Waste and Recycling in Australia' Final Report (2008) by Hyder Consulting
- Document titled 'Graph 2' compiled from 'Waste and Recycling in Australia' Final Report (2008) by Hyder Consulting.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.32 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Deliberative meeting**

Tabled documents

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That the Committee accept and publish, according to section 4 of the *Parliamentary Papers (Supplementary Provisions) Act 1975* and Standing Order 223(1), the following documents tendered during the public hearing:

- Document titled 'Budgeted Expenses Compared with NSW Reserve System Area', tendered by Ms Sally Barnes.
- Document titled 'NSW State Parks and Wildlife', tendered by Mr Robert Brown.
- Documents including: a list of NSW National Parks; document titled 'Graph 1', compiled from Waste and Recycling in Australia Final Report (2008) by Hyder Consulting; and document titled 'Graph 2', compiled from Waste and Recycling in Australia Final Report (2008) by Hyder Consulting, tendered by Mr Ian Cohen.

6. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5.31 pm until Friday, 18 September 2009 at 9.00 am.

Simon Johnston

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 31

Friday, 18 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.00am

1. Members present

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Matthew Mason-Cox (Colless) (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown

Ms Kayee Griffin (Catanzariti)

Mr Duncan Gay (Lynn)

Ms Lynda Voltz

Mr Ian West (Westwood)

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Ms Griffin to substitute for Mr Catanzariti
- Mr West to substitute for Ms Westwood
- Mr Gay to substitute for Mr Lynn
- Mr Mason-Cox to substitute for Mr Colless.

3. Participating members

The Chair advised that the following member would be attending the meeting as a participating member:

- Dr Kaye.

4. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 14 September 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Robertson, Minister for Energy, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.
- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Macdonald, Minister for Energy, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

5. Conduct of hearingMorning/afternoon break

The Chair advised that there would be a brief break at 10.30 am and 3.30 pm.

6. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Robertson that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Andrew Lewis, Director, Energy Supply Issues Management, Industry and Investment NSW
- Ms Katharine Hole, Director, Energy Strategy and Reform, Industry and Investment NSW
- Ms Karen Smith, Executive Director, Energy and Legal, Industry and Investment NSW.

The following witnesses were examined on a former oath:

- Dr Richard Sheldrake, Director General, Industry and Investment NSW
- Mr Mark Duffy, Deputy Director General, Minerals and Energy, Industry and Investment NSW.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Energy open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 11.00 am. The public and media withdrew.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 11.00 am until Friday, 18 September 2009 at 11.45 am.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 32

Friday, 18 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 11.45am

1. Members present

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Trevor Khan (Colless) (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown

Mr Eddie Obeid (Catanzariti)

Ms Melinda Pavey (Lynn)

Ms Lynda Voltz

Mr Ian West (Westwood)

2. Substitute members

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Obeid to substitute for Mr Catanzariti
- Mr West to substitute for Ms Westwood
- Ms Pavey to substitute for Mr Lynn
- Mr Khan to substitute for Mr Colless.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Macdonald, Minister for State Development, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

4. Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Macdonald that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Barry Buffier, Deputy Director General, State and Regional Development and Tourism, Industry and Investment NSW
- Mr Warwick Glenn, Executive Director, Investment Division, Industry and Investment NSW
- Mr Bryan Hardman, Chief Executive Officer, Homebush Motor Racing Authority, Industry and Investment NSW.

The following witness was examined on a former oath:

- Dr Richard Sheldrake, Director General, Industry and Investment NSW.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of State Development open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 1.00 pm. The public and media withdrew.

5. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 1.00 pm until Friday, 18 September 2009 at 2.00 pm.

Rachel Simpson

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 33

Thursday, 17 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 2.00pm

1. **Members present**

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Rick Colless (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown (at 3.20pm)

Mr Henry Tsang (Catanzariti)

Ms Melinda Pavey (Lynn)

Ms Lynda Voltz

Ms Helen Westwood

Dr John Kaye (*participating*)

2. **Substitute members**

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr Tsang to substitute for Mr Catanzariti
- Ms Pavey to substitute for Mr Lynn.

3. **Participating members**

The Chair advised that the following member would be attending the meeting as a participating member:

- Dr Kaye.

4. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Costa, Minister for Water and Minister for Regional Development, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

5. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair reminded Minister Costa that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr David Harriss, Commissioner for Water, NSW Office of Water
- Ms Debra Bock, Chief Financial Officer, NSW Office of Water
- Ms Kerry Schott, Managing Director, Sydney Water Corporation
- Mr George Warne, Chief Executive Officer, State Water Corporation
- Mr John O'Hearn, General Manager, Business Strategy and Communications, Hunter Water Corporation

- Mr Michael Bullen, Chief Executive, Sydney Catchment Authority.

The following witnesses were examined on a former oath:

- Mr Barry Buffier, Deputy Director-General, Industry and Investment NSW
- Mr Michael Cullen, Executive Director – Enterprise, Small Business and Regional Development, Industry and Investment NSW.

The Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Water and Regional Development open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 4.12 pm. The public and media withdrew.

6. Other business

Election of Temporary Deputy chair

Mr Cohen left the meeting for a prior engagement.

Mr Colless noted the need to elect a temporary Deputy Chair to act as Chair during the next hearing.

According to Standing Order 211 (3), the Acting Chair called for nominations for a member to act as temporary Deputy Chair for the purpose of the meeting.

Ms Westwood moved: That Mr Brown be elected Temporary Deputy Chair of the Committee.

There being no further nominations, the Clerk declared Mr Brown elected chair.

7. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 4.15 pm until Friday, 18 September 2009 at 4.30 pm.

Jonathan Clark

Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 34

Thursday, 17 September 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 814/815, Parliament House, Sydney, at 4.30pm

1. Members present

Mr Robert Brown (*Acting Chair*)

Mr Ian West (Catanzariti)

Ms Lynda Voltz

Ms Helen Westwood

Mr Greg Pearce (Colless)

Mr John Ajaka (Lynn)

Ms Sylvia Hale (*participating*)

2. Apologies

Mr Ian Cohen

Mr Rick Colless.

3. Substitute members

The Chair advised that he had received written advice that the following members would be substituting for the purposes of this hearing:

- Mr West to substitute for Mr Catanzariti

- Mr Pearce to substitute for Mr Colless
- Mr Ajaka to substitute for Mr Lynn.

4. **Participating members**

The Chair advised that the following member would be attending the meeting as a participating member:

- Ms Hale.

5. **Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence sent:

- 1 July 2009 – From Secretariat to Minister Borger, Minister for Housing and Minister for Western Sydney, regarding the Minister's scheduled appearance time for the Inquiry into the Budget Estimates 2009-2010.

6. **Conduct of hearing**

Allocation of question time

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That the sequence of questions to be asked alternate between Opposition and the Cross Bench with 20 minutes allocated to each, followed by 10 minutes allocated to each. The Government agreed to put their questions on notice.

7. **Public hearing: Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2009-2010**

Witnesses, the public and media were admitted.

The Acting Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Acting Chair reminded Minister Borger that he did not need to be sworn, as he had sworn an oath to his office as a member of Parliament.

The following officials from departments, statutory bodies or corporations were sworn:

- Mr Mike Allen, Chief Executive, Housing NSW, Department of Human Services and A/Chief Executive Officer, Aboriginal Housing Office
- Ms Carol Mills, Director-General, Communities NSW
- Mr Alan Marsh, Chief Executive Officer, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- Mr Nick Hubble, General Manager, Sydney Olympic Park Authority
- Ms Jane Moxon, Deputy Regional Coordinator, Office of the Minister for Western Sydney
- Ms Suellen Fitzgerald, Director, Western Sydney Parklands.

The Acting Chair then declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Housing and Western Sydney open for examination.

The Minister and other witnesses were examined by the Committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.40 pm. The public and media withdrew.

8. **Deliberative meeting**

Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Voltz: That the Committee defer its decision to hold supplementary hearings relating to all of its portfolios until after it receives answers to questions on notice from the initial round of Budget Estimates hearings.

9. **Adjournment**

The Committee adjourned at 5.43 pm *sine die*.

Jonathan Clark
Clerk to the Committee

Minutes No. 38

Thursday 16 October 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Guy Kable Room, Quality Hotel Powerhouse, Tamworth at 10.00am

1. Members present

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Rick Colless (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Mr Charlie Lynn

Ms Lynda Voltz

Ms Helen Westwood

2. ***

3. ***

4. Budget Estimates 2009/2010 – Supplementary Hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Brown: That no supplementary hearings be held for Budget Estimates 2009/2010.

5. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 3.45pm *sine die*.

Rachel Callinan

Clerk to the Committee

Draft Minutes No. 41

Monday 14 December 2009

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5

Room 1102, Parliament House at 9:05 am

1. Members present

Mr Ian Cohen (*Chair*)

Mr Rick Colless (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Robert Brown

Mr Tony Catanzariti

Mr Charlie Lynn

Ms Lynda Voltz

Ms Helen Westwood

2. Confirmation of previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Brown: That draft Minutes No. 40 be confirmed.

3. ***

4. Budget Estimates 2009-2010 – Consideration of Chair's Draft Report

The Chair tabled his draft report entitled *Budget Estimates 2009-2010*, which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That the report be the report of the Committee.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Westwood: That the Committee present the report to the House, together with transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice, minutes of proceedings and correspondence relating to the Inquiry.

5. ***

6. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 3.00pm *sine die*.

Rachel Callinan
Clerk to the Committee