
A Conduct of the inquiry

This appendix outlines the inquiry process and lists the organisations and individuals that have participated. Following receipt of the terms of reference on 20 June 2008, the Commission placed a notice in the metropolitan, rural and regional press inviting public participation in the inquiry. It released an issues paper in early July to assist participants to prepare their submissions. Prior to the release of the draft report in October 2008, the Commission received 107 initial submissions. After the Commission's draft report was released, a further 81 submissions were received. (table A.1)

The Commission held informal discussions with organisations and government departments and agencies, conducted roundtables with various groups and held open regional public forums. It conducted a total of 81 meetings, attended a total of 24 roundtables, and visited rural cities in all states (listed in table A.2) before releasing its draft report. In doing so, a range of agricultural operations were covered, such as broadacre cropping, horticulture and viticulture, in both marginal and reliable farming regions. The scale of operations encountered spanned from large pastoral properties to the extensive broadacre areas in the Western Australian wheatbelt, and down to small scale irrigators in the Riverland. In all, the Commission held meetings in 31 towns and cities around Australia and conducted a teleconference with government officials in Darwin prior to releasing its draft report. Subsequently, the Commission held 7 public hearings and 5 roundtables in November and December 2008 after the release of its draft report (table A.3).

Table A.1 List of submissions

<i>Individual or organisation</i>	<i>Submission number</i>
AACL	DR117
ACT – Department Territory and Municipal Services	101
AgForce	80, DR185
Allen, D. and T.	20
Anderson, G.	31
Anglicare	57
Australian Bankers' Association	76
Australian Beef Association	100
Australian Conservation Foundation	106, DR128
Australian Dairy Industry Council	58, DR145
Australian Fodder Industry Association	DR172
Australian General Practice Network	DR170
Australian Institute of Family Studies	92
Australian Land Management Group	24
Australian Pork Limited	95, DR155
Beale, J.A.	39, DR135
Belalie Pastoral Company	67
Bennett, M.	55
Berger, J.	DR138
Boardman, S. and A.	43
Botterill, L. and Chapman, B.	52, DR139
Buloke Shire Council	DR158
Bureau of Meteorology	33
Burnett, V.D.	DR112
Calder, K.	29
Canegrowers Australia	47
Carrigan and Co. Pty. Ltd.	32, DR129
Central Darling Shire Council	99
Centrelink (confidential)	104
Centroc	105
Citizens Electoral Council (Qld)	DR127
Chappel, K.	DR120
Clark, H.	78, DR175
Climate Adaption Flagships	108
Community and Neighbourhood Houses and Centres Association Inc.	DR159
Coonamble Shire Council	63, DR133
Cooper, J.	10
Cotton Australia	9
Country Women's Association – NSW	DR137
Country Women's Association – Tasmania	17
Crocker Farming Co.	45
Cunningham, L. (MP)	7

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Table A.1 (continued)

<i>Individual or organisation</i>	<i>Submission number</i>
Dampney, J. and P.	16
Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia	65, DR186
Department of Climate Change	109
Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts	107
Department of Primary Industries and Water - Tasmania	85, DR179
Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Resources - NT	DR142
Dragon Point Enterprises	15
Duncan, Hon. W. (MLC)	50
Eyre Peninsula Drought Task Force	11
Fenton, C. and M.	64
Fleurieu Regional Development	18
Foundation for Australian Agricultural Women	DR124
Freeman, L.	87
Gadsby, A. and K.	96
Gannawarra Shire	75
Geldard, M., Geldard, D. and T. Reid	46
Government of South Australia	DR192
Grady, G.	19, DR143
Greater Shepparton City Council	DR183
Growcom	93, DR171
Hallam, G.J. and P.C.	DR156
Hardie, G.	12, DR116
Hickey, P.	DR111
Hindmarsh Shire Council	DR174
Horsham Rural City Council	DR167
Horticulture Australia Council	66, DR169
Highview	37
JJ Hallam Pty. Ltd.	2
Kelley, P.	DR146
Kettlewell, M.	DR150
Lexo Pty. Ltd.	54
Local Government Association of NSW	102, DR184
Linnett, C.	DR131
Loller, H.	49
Macquarie River Food and Fibre	36
Mallee Sustainable Farming	DR168
Mangelsdorf, P.	30
Mann, L.	42
McKenzie, D.	DR187
Mengel's Heli Services Pty Ltd	3
Mid Lachlan Alliance of Councils	38
Mid Western Regional Council	1

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Table A.1 (continued)

<i>Individual or organisation</i>	<i>Submission number</i>
Moira Shire Council	25, DR154
Morris, P.	23
Murray Dairy	70
Murray Lands Regional Development Board Inc.	68
Murray Valley Citrus Board and Sunraysia Citrus Growers Inc.	89
Nason, C.	6
National Farmers' Federation	51, DR176
North East Riverina Rural Counselling Service Inc.	DR149
North West Municipalities Association	59
Northern Grampians Shire	DR173
Northern Yorke Drought Taskforce	61, DR152
NSW Farmers' Association	98, DR182
NSW Farmers' Association – Bourke District Council	81
NSW Government	90
NSW Irrigators' Council	62
O'Donnell, C.	5, DR132
Oil Mallee Association	8
Otto Agribusiness	DR189
Pastoralists' Association of West Darling	79, DR130
Pastoralists and Graziers Association – WA	DR121
Pearson, S.	28
Plant Health Australia	DR166
Plunkett Orchards	13
Polkinghome, A.G. and J.C.	103
Pristine Forage Technologies	DR162
Proctor, G.	DR114
Productive Nutrition	DR122
Queensland Farmers' Federation	82, DR123, DR165
Queensland Government	77, DR190
Queensland Murray-Darling Committee (confidential)	41
Ramsay, J.	DR113
Rangelands Drought Taskforce	60, DR153
Riverland Drought Taskforce	56
Riverland Horticultural Reference Forum	21
Rogerson, W.R.B and S.J.	53
Rural Business Development Corporation	83
Rural City of Wangaratta	DR140
Rural Directions Pty. Ltd.	35
Rural Financial Counselling Service, NSW – Bourke	DR181
Rural Financial Counselling Service, NSW – Central West	73, DR178
Rural Financial Counselling Service – Gippsland	34

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Table A.1 (continued)

<i>Individual or organisation</i>	<i>Submission number</i>
Rural Financial Counselling Service - Tasmania	DR164
Rural Financial Counselling Service, Victoria – North Central	DR136
Rural Youth Organisation of Tasmania	88
Salvation Army – Geraldton Community Church	DR148
Schmidt, G.	4
South Australian Advisory Board of Agriculture	71, DR157
South Australian Country Women’s Association Incorporated	72
South Australian Farmers’ Federation	84, DR141
South Australian Government	91, DR192
Southern Riverina Irrigators	DR188
Stothers, K.	DR163
Strathbogie Shire Council	DR144
Such, B.	DR191
Tasmanian Department Primary Industries and Water	85
Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association	69
Tasmanian Women in Agriculture	DR115
Toms-Morgan, R.	DR126
Towong Shire Community Support Committee	40
Trua Pty. Ltd.	48, DR180
Uebergang, J.	27
Victoria Murray Mallee	DR151
Victorian Farmers’ Federation	74, DR160
Victorian Government	110
Wallace, P.	97
Watts Price and Associates	DR134
Wells, G.	DR118
Western Australian Farmers’ Federation	26, DR161
Western Australian Rural Counselling Association Incorporated	22
Whelan, G.	DR147
White, B.	94
Willett, M.	DR125
Wimmera Development Association	DR177

Table A.2 **Pre-draft report consultations**

Interested parties/location

NEW SOUTH WALES

Meetings

Australian Farm Institute
Cotton Australia
Expert Panel on social impacts of drought
Meat and Livestock Australia
NSW Department of Primary Industries (NSW DPI)
NSW Farmers' Association
NSW Rural Assistance Authority

Roundtables

Moree (22 participants) including farmers, rural financial counsellors and bank representatives
Narrabri (15 participants) including farmers, rural financial counsellors and bank representatives
Dubbo (12 participants) including farmers and rural financial counsellors
Parkes (12 participants) including farmers, rural financial counsellors and bank representatives
Wagga Wagga (8 participants) including farmers, NSW Farmers' Association and ANZ Bank
West Wyalong (6 participants) including farmers, rural financial counsellor, agronomist
Hay (11 participants) including farmers, rural financial counsellor, NSW DPI, agronomist
Deniliquin (10 participants) including farmers, Ricegrowers' Association of Australia, NSW DPI, agronomists
NSW Farmers' Association Annual Conference (12 participants)

VICTORIA

Meetings

Australian Dairyfarmers' Association
Australian Dried Fruits Association
Bureau of Meteorology
Centrelink
CSIRO
Mildura Rural City Council
Murray Valley Citrus Board
Murray Valley Winegrape Growers Association
Robinvale Table Grape Growers Association
Rural Finance Corporation of Victoria
Sunraysia Rural Financial Counselling Service
Victorian Farmers' Federation
Victorian Department of Primary Industries

Roundtables

Birchip Cropping Group (BCG) (12 participants) including farmers, BCG chair and staff, Buloke Shire Mayor
Echuca dairy stakeholders (5 participants) including dairy farmers, Murray Dairy and Fonterra Milk Australia
Murray River Group of Councils (6 participants) including Campaspe, Gannawarra and Loddon Shires
Tatura horticulture stakeholders (7 participants) including orchardists, National Australia Bank, Fruitgrowers Victoria and GMH Agcare.

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Table A.2 (continued)

Interested parties/location

QUEENSLAND

Meetings

AgForce
Canegrowers Australia
Cotton Australia Limited
Growcom
Herron, Todd, White
Queensland Dairyfarmers' Association
Queensland Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (QDPIF)
Queensland Farmers' Federation
Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority (QRAA)
Woods, Professor Beth (QDPI)

Roundtables

Cunnamulla (24 participants) including sheep and cattle graziers, Paroo Shire Mayor, QRAA, AgForce
Roma (16 participants) including grains, sheep and cattle producers, QRAA, Mayor
Biloela (28 participants) including grains and pastoral interests
Kingaroy (28 participants)^a

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Meetings

Chance, Kim, MLC, former Minister for Agriculture and Food, Forestry, (Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council Department)
Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia (DAFWA)
Mid West Regional Council
National Australia Bank
North East Farming Futures Group
Pastoralists and Graziers Association
Planfarm Consultants
Rabobank
RSM Bird Cameron
Rural Business Development Corporation
Western Australian Farmers' Federation
Wheatbelt Men's Health

Roundtables

Merriden Shire (15 participants) including farmers, small businesses and shire representatives
Mullawa Shire (10 participants) including farmers, DAFWA North East Office
Wyalkatchem Town Hall (20 participants) including farmers and local small businesses

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Table A.2 (continued)

Interested parties/location

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Meetings

Advisory Board of Agriculture
Ag Excellence Alliance
Australian Women in Agriculture
ANZ Bank
Bank SA
Commonwealth Bank
Expert Panel on Social Impacts of Drought
Lucas Group
McColl, Jim
McEwen, Hon. Rory, MP, Minister for Agriculture, Food and Fisheries, Minister for Forests and
Minister Responsible for Matters Relating to Drought
Primary Industries and Resources of South Australia (PIRSA)
Rabobank
Regional Communities Consultative Committee
Regional drought taskforces
Regional Development SA
Rural Directions Pty Ltd
Rural Finance and Development (PIRSA)
Rural Solutions SA
South Australian Farmers' Federation

Roundtables

Tumby Bay (12 participants) including farmers; ANZ Bank; Centrelink; Commonwealth Bank;
PIRSA; Drought taskforce; Centacare.
Murray Lands Regional Development Board (18 participants) including Lower Murray Drought
Group and dryland farmers from the Mallee Drought Group
Barmera (25 participants) including irrigation farmers, SA Citrus Board, Centrelink, PIRSA, rural
financial counsellors
Burra (8 participants) including farmers, regional drought task force members

TASMANIA

Meetings

Tasmanian Country Women's Association
Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association
Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries and Water
Tasmanian Rural Financial Counselling Service
Tasmanian Women in Agriculture

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Table A.2 (continued)

Interested parties/location

ACT

Meetings

ACT Department of Territory and Municipal Services
Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics
Australian Bureau of Statistics
Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
Australian Government Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts
Australian Government Department of the Treasury
Australian Pork Limited
Botterill, Linda
Bureau of Rural Sciences
Centrelink
CSIRO
Horticulture Australia
Murray Darling Basin Commission
National Water Commission
National Farmers' Federation
National Rural Advisory Council

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Teleconference

Northern Territory Department of Primary Industries, Fisheries and Mines (teleconference)

^a Productivity Commission unable to attend owing to bad weather. Meeting record taken by AgForce.

Table A.3 **Post-draft public hearings and regional roundtables**

Interested parties/location

NEW SOUTH WALES

Public Hearings

Country Women's Association - NSW
NSW Farmers' Association
NSW Irrigators' Council
Local Government and Shires Association – NSW

Roundtables

Dubbo

VICTORIA

Public Hearings

Australian Bankers' Association
Birchip Cropping Group
Citizens Electoral Council
Country Women's Association - Victoria
Victorian Farmers' Federation

Roundtables

Mildura

QUEENSLAND

Public Hearings

AgForce
Citizens Electoral Council
Freeman, L.
Growcom
Queensland Farmers' Federation
Willett, M.

Roundtables

Roma

WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Public Hearings

AACL
Department of Agriculture and Food – WA
Pastoralists and Graziers Association – WA
Rural Business Development Corporation
Stehlik, D.
Western Australian Farmers' Federation

Roundtables

Northam

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Table A.3 (continued)

Interested Parties/location

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Public Hearings

Agvance Rural Services
South Australian Farmers' Federation
Pristine Forage Technologies
Productive Nutrition
Rural Clay Services
Rural Financial Counselling Service – SA

Roundtables

Port Lincoln

TASMANIA

Public Hearings

Department of Primary Industries and Water – Tasmania
McKenzie, D.
Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association
Tasmanian Institute of Agricultural Research
Tasmanian Women in Agriculture

ACT

Public Hearings

Australian Beef Association
Botterill, L. and Chapman, B.
Grady, G.
National Farmers' Federation
North East Riverina Rural Counselling Service
Trua Pty. Ltd.
