



## Environment and Resources Committee

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The Environment and Resources Committee is a select committee of the Queensland Parliament. It was established by resolution of the House on 23 April 2009 to monitor and report on: environmental protection; climate change; land management; water security; and energy.

# Media Release

## Committee to look at generating more electricity from renewables in Queensland

Generating more of the state's electricity from renewable energy is the subject of a new parliamentary inquiry.

Carryn Sullivan MP, Chair of the Queensland Parliament's Environment and Resources Committee said her inquiry will identify opportunities for the government to make investing in renewable energy more attractive.

"Investing in renewable energy is like any other business decision. We need to understand how to create the right set of conditions and financial returns for businesses to bring their expertise and build solar and wind farms and other renewable energy sources in Queensland."

"Switching to renewable energy sources for some of our electricity needs is the key to reducing climate change risks and ensuring the state has environmentally sustainable energy sources for the future."

"Coal-burning power stations continue to produce around 85 per cent of Queensland's electricity, and demand is predicted to grow by around half, by the end of this decade. With only 6 per cent of the state's electricity now sourced from renewables, the time to act is now."

"The Queensland Government is seeking to leverage \$3.5 billion of investment in renewable energy sources over the next decade. This is part of the \$12 billion National Renewable Energy Plan to meet 20 per cent of Australia's electricity needs from renewable energy sources by 2020."

"I think every Queenslander knows we have massive reserves of coal. But our solar, wind, biomass and geothermal energy resources are potentially limitless, and even more valuable and sustainable" Mrs Sullivan said.

"Our inquiry will look at creating the right conditions for tapping these energy resources for a cleaner energy future."

**The committee has released an issues paper for the inquiry. Submissions close on 30 June 2010.**

The committee plans to report its findings and recommendations to Parliament in November 2010.

*For further information contact the committee's secretariat at Parliament House ph 3406 7908 or 1800 504 022.*