



THIRTY-NINTH PARLIAMENT

REPORT 32

**STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND
PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**INQUIRY INTO THE SANDALWOOD INDUSTRY IN
WESTERN AUSTRALIA – TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Presented by Hon Simon O'Brien MLC (Chairman)

August 2013

STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

Date first appointed:

17 August 2005

Terms of Reference:

The following is an extract from Schedule 1 of the Legislative Council Standing Orders:

“1. Environment and Public Affairs Committee

- 1.1 *An Environment and Public Affairs Committee* is established.
- 1.2 The Committee consists of 5 members.
- 1.3 The functions of the Committee are to inquire into and report on –
 - (a) any public or private policy, practice, scheme, arrangement, or project whose implementation, or intended implementation, within the limits of the State is affecting, or may affect, the environment;
 - (b) any bill referred by the House; and
 - (c) petitions.
- 1.4 The Committee, where relevant and appropriate, is to assess the merit of matters or issues arising from an inquiry in accordance with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and the minimisation of harm to the environment.
- 1.5 The Committee may refer a petition to another committee where the subject matter of the petition is within the competence of that committee.
- 1.6 In this order “**environment**” has the meaning assigned to it under section 3(1), (2) of the *Environmental Protection Act 1986*.”

Members as at the time of this inquiry:

Hon Simon O'Brien MLC (Chairman)
Hon Brian Ellis MLC
Hon Samantha Rowe MLC

Hon Stephen Dawson MLC (Deputy Chair)
Hon Paul Brown MLC

Staff as at the time of this inquiry:

Amanda Gillingham (Research Officer)
Margaret Liveris (Committee Clerk)

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REPORT OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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1 REFERENCE AND PROCEDURE

Continuation of previous inquiry pursuant to Standing Orders

- 1.1 At a meeting of the Standing Committee on Environment and Public Affairs (**the Committee**) held on 7 August 2013, the Committee resolved to accept Recommendation 2 of Report 29, *Interim Report in relation to the Inquiry into the Sandalwood Industry in Western Australia*, tabled by the Committee of the 38th Parliament on 27 November 2012. The Committee has resolved to inquire into:
- a) the roles of the Department of Environment Regulation, the Department of Parks and Wildlife and the Forest Products Commission in the management and commercialisation of sandalwood;
 - b) how future contracts for the harvesting, marketing and selling of sandalwood can be managed to ensure that all sectors of the industry remain viable and sustainable and the returns to the State are maximised;
 - c) the management of wild sandalwood, including monitoring of the resource and regeneration;
 - d) the government resources required to effectively detect and prosecute the illegal harvesting and exporting of sandalwood, including the transport, storage, purchase, possession and identification of the sandalwood resource; and
 - e) a review of all relevant legislation pertaining to the sandalwood industry.
- 1.2 The Committee hereby acquaints the Legislative Council accordingly.



Hon Simon O'Brien MLC
Chairman
13 August 2013