



***ECONOMICS AND INDUSTRY
STANDING COMMITTEE***

ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003

Report No. 7

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STANDING COMMITTEE***

ANNUAL REPORT 2002-2003

Report No. 7

Presented by:

Mr A.D. McRae, MLA

Laid on the Table of the Legislative Assembly
on Thursday, 30 October 2003.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Chairperson	Mr A.D. McRae, MLA Member for Riverton
Deputy Chairperson	Mr J.H.D. Day, MLA Member for Darling Range
Members	Mr J.J.M. Bowler, MLA Member for Eyre
	Mr B.K. Masters, MLA Member for Vasse
	Mr M.P. Murray, MLA Member for Collie

COMMITTEE STAFF

Principal Research Officer	Ms Melina Newnan, BA, LLB (until Jul 02) Dr Ray Wills, BSc (Hons), PhD (from Jul 02)
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COMMITTEE'S FUNCTIONS AND POWERS

The functions of the Committee are to review and report to the Assembly on: -

- (a) the outcomes and administration of the departments within the Committee's portfolio responsibilities;
- (b) annual reports of government departments laid on the Table of the House;
- (c) the adequacy of legislation and regulations within its jurisdiction; and
- (d) any matters referred to it by the assembly including a bill, motion, petition, vote or expenditure, other financial matter, report or paper.

At the commencement of each Parliament and as often thereafter as the Speaker considers necessary, the Speaker will determine and table a schedule showing the portfolio responsibilities for each committee. Annual report of government departments and authorities tabled in the Assembly will stand referred to the relevant committee for any inquiry the committee may make.

Whenever a committee receives or determines for itself fresh or amended terms of reference, the committee will forward them to each standing and select committee of the Assembly and Joint Committee of the Assembly and Council. The Speaker will announce them to the Assembly at the next opportunity and arrange for them to be placed on the notice boards of the Assembly.

The portfolio areas of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee are:

- Agriculture
- Consumer Affairs
- Employment & Training
- Energy
- Environment & Heritage
- Forestry & Fisheries
- Housing
- Labour Relations
- Planning & Infrastructure
- Small Business
- State Development
- Tourism
- Water Resources
- Works & Services

And the regional development portfolios of:

- Goldfields-Esperance
- Peel & the Southwest
- The Midwest
- The Kimberley, Pilbara & Gascoyne
- Wheatbelt & Great Southern

CHAIRPERSON'S FOREWORD

This is the seventh report of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee and provides an overview of the Committee's activities from 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003.

In the little more than two years since this Committee was constituted, a constant program of inquiry and review has been maintained. This program has been continuous and wide-ranging, as demonstrated by the year under report.

During the last 12 months, the Economics and Industry Standing Committee's major inquiries have covered the Western Australian Strata Management Industry, and the Sustainability of the Western Australian Dairy Industry.

The Committee's inquiry into the Western Australian Strata Management Industry was commenced following a referral of the matter from the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection, Hon. John Kobelke. The inquiry involved travel to Queensland, New South Wales and South Australia for briefings, and to Kalgoorlie, Busselton and Perth for public hearings.

The Committee tabled two reports on this matter: the first provided an edited version of papers presented to a public forum held on 8 November 2002; and, the second report presented the Committee's Findings and Recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on 26 June 2003.

On 25 June 2003, the Legislative Assembly referred to the Committee, for investigation, an inquiry into the Sustainability of the Western Australian Dairy Industry. The Committee is nearing the end of its investigation of this matter and is due to report to the Legislative Assembly on 4 December 2003.

The Committee also corresponded with all Ministers with Departments from within the Committee's portfolio responsibilities and established a network of departmental contacts. This direct relationship between the Committee and both portfolio agencies and relevant Ministers is regarded as an essential characteristic of a robust and effective committee process.

I would like to thank my fellow Committee members for their individual and collective contributions over this last year and commend the Principal Research Officers, Melina Newnan and Dr Ray Wills, and Research Officers, Liz Kerr and Jovita Hogan, for their enthusiasm and professionalism in the conduct of their roles.

I would also like to thank Helen Lünsmann and the Parliamentary Assistants, Glen Whitting and Peter D'Cress, for their invaluable assistance throughout the past year.

MR A.D. McRAE, MLA
CHAIRPERSON

CHAPTER 1 COMMITTEE ACTIVITIES.

1.1 Introduction.

During the course of this reporting period (Table 1.1), the Committee:

- Held 26 deliberative meetings;
- Completed one inquiry on the Strata Management Industry involving 21 meetings and two reports;
- Took evidence and/or was briefed by 52 persons;
- Made an investigative trip to Sydney, Brisbane and Adelaide; and was briefed by 19 persons;
- Contacted all 58 government agencies within the Committee's portfolio and developed a framework for actively fulfilling its role in the oversight of those agencies;
- Examined in detail the annual report of the Department of Fisheries;
- Attended the National Conference of Public Works and Environment Committees (NCPWEC 2002) in Adelaide; and
- Organised and commenced the NCPWEC 2003 in Perth and Karratha.

Table 1.1 Summary of activities of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2002 - 30 June 2003.

Description	Activity
Deliberative meetings	26
Briefings	2
Formal evidence hearings	8
Witnesses appearing	28
Reports tabled	3
Report findings tabled	17
Report recommendations tabled	21

1.2 Administration and outcomes of portfolio agencies.

The first function of the Committee is to review and report to the Legislative Assembly on the outcomes and administration of the government agencies within the Committee's portfolio responsibilities

(a) Portfolio agencies.

The Speaker determines a schedule of the portfolio responsibilities for each standing committee.

The Economics and Industry Standing Committee portfolio includes 58 agencies made up of ten Government Departments, three Government Corporations, 18 Commissions including all nine Development Commissions, 15 Authorities including all eight Port Authorities and four Redevelopment Authorities (Table 1.2).

(b) Oversight of agencies.

In order to ensure that the Committee is able to meet the responsibilities conferred upon it by the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly, the Committee wrote initially to Ministers (Table 1.3) and asked that they instruct the relevant agencies within their ministries to forward to the Committee annual reports and other publications, as well as any circulars relating to the administration of the agency.

Further, the Committee requested that all portfolio agencies keep it advised of, and invite the Committee to attend, any conferences that are being hosted by the respective agencies.

All further correspondence was directed to the relevant agencies.

In discussing its oversight of agencies, one issue that arose was that of the cost of parliamentary questions to agencies. The Committee noted that between 1 May 2001 and 28 June 2002, there had been 1922 Assembly questions on notice¹. The Committee observed that some agencies within the Committee's portfolio received many more questions about their operations than other agencies. The Committee discussed the possibility that parliamentary questions may cause a significant draw on an agency's budget, particularly in the case of smaller agencies, and might potentially impact on service delivery.

¹ Hansard, Western Australian Legislative Assembly, 28 June 2002, p. 12405.

Table 1.2 Government agencies within the Committee's portfolio as at 30 June 2003.

Agency	Agency
1. Albany Port Authority;	29. Insurance Commission of Western Australia;
2. Armadale Redevelopment Authority;	30. Kimberley Development Commission;
3. Botanic Gardens and Parks Authority;	31. LandCorp;
4. Broome Port Authority;	32. Main Roads WA;
5. Bunbury Port Authority;	33. Metropolitan Cemeteries Board;
6. Conservation Commission;	34. Mid West Development Commission;
7. Dampier Port Authority;	35. Midland Redevelopment Authority;
8. Department of Agriculture;	36. National Trust of Australia (WA);
9. Department of Conservation and Land Management;	37. Office of Energy;
10. Department of Consumer and Employment Protection;;	38. Office of Gas Access Regulation;
11. Department of Environmental Protection;	39. Office of Training;
12. Department of Fisheries;	40. Office of Water Regulation;
13. Department of Housing and Works;	41. Peel Development Commission;
14. Department of Industry and Resources;	42. Pilbara Development Commission;
15. Department of Land Administration;	43. Port Hedland Port Authority;
16. Department of Local Government and Regional Development;	44. Regional Development Council;
17. Department of Planning and Infrastructure;	45. Rottnest Island Authority;
18. East Perth Redevelopment Authority;	46. Small Business Development Commission;
19. Esperance Port Authority;	47. South West Development Commission;
20. Forest Products Commission;	48. State Supply Commission;
21. Fremantle Port Authority;	49. Subiaco Redevelopment Authority;
22. Gascoyne Development Commission;	50. Swan River Trust;
23. Geraldton Port Authority;	51. WA Government Railways Commission;
24. Gold Corporation - Perth Mint;	52. WA Planning Commission;
25. Goldfields-Esperance Development Commission;	53. Water and Rivers Commission;
26. Government Employees Superannuation Board;	54. Water Corporation;
27. Great Southern Development Commission;	55. Western Australian Tourism Commission;
28. Heritage Council of Western Australia;	56. Western Power Corporation;
	57. Wheatbelt Development Commission;and
	58. Zoological Parks Authority.

Table 1.3 Ministers of agencies within the Committee's portfolio as at 30 June 2003.

Minister
1. Hon Eric S Ripper MLA, Minister for Energy;
2. Hon Kim M Chance MLC, Minister for Agriculture; Forestry and Fisheries; The Midwest, Wheatbelt and Great Southern;
3. Hon Tom G Stephens MLC, Minister for Regional Development; Heritage; The Kimberley; Pilbara and Gascoyne; Goldfields - Esperance;
4. Hon John C Kobelke MLA, Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection;
5. Hon Dr Judy M Edwards MLA, Minister for the Environment;
6. Hon Alannah MacTiernan MLA, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure;
7. Hon Clive M Brown MLA, Minister for State Development;
8. Hon Alan Carpenter MLA, Minister for Training;
9. Hon Bob Kucera MLA, Minister for Tourism; Small Business; Peel and the South West; and
10. Hon Nick D Griffiths MLC, Minister for Housing & Works; Government Enterprises; Land Information.

1.3 Annual reports of portfolio agencies.

The Committee sought advice from the Office of the Auditor General on what constitutes a good annual report. The Committee was informed that the Department of Fisheries Annual Report was a model report, and had received national acknowledgment by the Institute of Public Administration Australia (IPAA), by the presentation of an award for excellence in annual report writing.

The Committee resolved to examine this report as a starting point in its fulfilment of its requirements under this function.

The Committee examined the Department of Fisheries 2001/2002 Annual Report, and considered a range of information in relation to annual reporting by the Department. Items considered included the Auditor General's report and Premier's instruction on

Annual Reporting, and the Department's costing of report preparation for the last three years.

In future examinations of reports, the Committee intends to examine all agencies annual reports with a focus on performance indicators, and compare these with agency statements made to Estimates Committees during the budget process. From an administrative point of view, the Committee will also consider data on the distribution of the reports, the question of whether libraries print out or keep on-line references, and examine if agencies are optimising reports for black and white printing given the expectation that the recipient will now be the one printing the report, and access to colour printing may not be possible or affordable.

1.4 Adequacy of legislation and regulations within the Committee's jurisdiction.

(a) Strata Management inquiry.

The Committee's inquiry came about in response to matters put before the Committee by the Minister for Consumer and Employment Protection, Hon. John Kobelke, MLA. Minister Kobelke had been dealing with approaches from members of the industry and matters arising across government that revealed the emergence of potential management and capital risk issues.

The living arrangements of Australians are changing with a trend to increased occupancy in strata title residences. Strata schemes account for 22.5% of all properties. There are currently more than 43,000 strata title schemes across more than 190,000 individual units in total - more than 89% of schemes are residential in nature. Strata properties are important in both city and country areas.

The estimated total capital value of all strata properties in WA is \$29.7 billion. The market share of strata in property development is continuously increasing. In addition the size and complexity of new schemes is also increasing.

There are more than 120 strata managers in Western Australia managing 4,000-5,000 strata schemes. Strata managers are not licensed nor regulated, under the Western Australian *Strata Titles Act 1985*.

The Committee's first Strata Management inquiry report provides an edited version of papers presented to a public forum held on 8 November 2002. This forum was held to allow the Committee to canvass a range of views in an environment conducive to the exchange of ideas. It may be the first time that a parliamentary inquiry has commenced its task in this fashion, and is an approach that may be used by the Committee in the future when appropriate.

The forum consolidated the preliminary assessment made by the Committee of some issues governing this industry such as the number of strata properties, the limitations of regulation in the State, the amount of money held by strata managers and the potential financial risks posed, in particular, to property owners.

The Committee's second report on the Strata Management inquiry was tabled on 26 June 2003.

The Committee made 17 Findings and 21 Recommendations that relate to regulatory reform in the area of strata property management.

The Committee's Recommendations covered:

- the provision of information and advice to strata owners;
- stronger reporting and accountability requirements for strata companies;
- the establishment by strata companies of management plans;
- the licensing and appointment of strata managers; and
- mechanisms of mediation and enforcement of disputes through the expansion of the role of the Strata Titles Referee.

The Committee developed a classification system for strata schemes, based on variables of management complexity, collective risk and governance obligations. This approach was also used in the proposed model for licensing of strata managers.

1.5 Matters referred by the Legislative Assembly.

(a) Referrals.

(i) Sustainability of the Western Australian dairy industry.

The Legislative Assembly agreed to a motion on the 25 June 2003 to refer an inquiry into the sustainability of the dairy industry to the Economics and Industry Standing Committee.

Further information will be provided on this matter in the Committee's 2003/2004 Annual Report.

(b) Ministerial response.

The Minister for the Environment and Heritage, Dr J. M. Edwards, MLA, responded to the Committee's final report on Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire Inquiry in a statement to the Legislative Assembly on 16 October 2002. The Minister's statement was in response to the Committee's second and final report on Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire, tabled on 27 June 2002.

The Government's response to the Economics and Industry Standing Committee's report included a range of integrated and specific actions across a range of departments and ministerial portfolios, including:

- the Fire and Emergency Services Authority, the Department of Mineral and Petroleum Resources and the Department of Environmental Protection, which have jointly funded a project to develop special risk plans for industrial waste treatment and major hazard facilities;
- the Western Australian Planning Commission, which will consider a statement of planning policy for the location and siting of hazardous industry as well as the use of special control areas to provide statutory buffers; and
- the Department of Health, which is developing options for health impact assessments to be used in the evaluation of industry proposals.

Within the portfolio of Environment and Heritage, numerous reforms are being undertaken, including:

- amendments to the Environmental Protection Act to better regulate on-site pollution and provide clearer powers of enforcement;
- a review of the Department of Environmental Protection's (DEP) enforcement and prosecution guidelines;
- an independent audit of the DEP's post-emergency response protocols with advice on best practice management for hazardous waste and hazardous chemicals;
- the creation of a waste management board; the introduction of technical assistance grants; and
- the development of an environmental health foundation.

1.6 Matters determined by the Committee.

The Committee may initiate its own inquiries within its terms of reference.

(a) Correspondence.

Excluding matters of an administrative nature, and excluding those received specifically concerning the Strata Management Inquiry, the Committee received a total of 46 letters raising a variety of matters covering a diverse array of subjects within the Committee's portfolio.

(i) *Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire.*

The Committee has maintained a watching brief on the issue of the Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire since the tabling of its second report on this matter on 26 June 2002, and has received correspondence on both its inquiry and on related matters over the last 12 months.

The ministerial response to the Committee's report, tabled on 16 October 2002 (see Section 1.5(b)), is a substantial demonstration of the changes that will be enacted by Government as a result of the Findings and Recommendations of the Committee's reports. The Committee was pleased to be informed of the establishment of a Health Surveillance register in Western Australia, a key recommendation of its final report. and a proposal for the development of national guidelines for appropriate responses to chemical incidents.

The Committee has noted the continuing community interest in the issues arising from the Bellevue fire, and has both sought and continued to receive information from the relevant government agencies during this reporting period. In particular, the Department of Environmental Protection has kept the Committee apprised of relevant public health research and field work on and near the Bellevue site, and the Committee has resolved to continue to receive and monitor this work.

(ii) *Other matters.*

Of the many matters raised, the following were of particular interest to the Committee:

- the protection and commercialisation of new apple varieties including issues of intellectual property rights by the WA Agriculture Department;
- public sector standards and performance of particular agencies within the Committee's portfolio;
- skill and knowledge levels in the building and construction industries;

- reports on the history and current status of the Mauds Landing proposal; and
- a number of issues in respect of Western Power including a request to investigate Western Power's cost-recovery policy for network construction services, and to examine service provision and complaints about electricity supply quality and reliability.

(b) Areas of interest.

The Committee may initiate its own inquiries within its area of portfolio responsibility. At the beginning of the 2002/2003 reporting period, the Committee had just completed its Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire report and resolved to explore possible new areas of inquiry.

Members of the Committee developed a list of potential areas of inquiry, and then ranked these in order of preference for future areas of interest to the Committee.

The areas considered were:

1. Private Public Partnerships and regional development;
2. Transport infrastructure (including application of federal funding priorities);
3. Mineral exploration;
4. Energy / renewable energy;
5. Greenhouse gas emissions, particularly in relation to the WA minerals/export sector;
6. Regional employment programs;
7. Salinity;
8. Ningaloo Marine Park and Cape Range National Park;
9. Endocrine disruptors (artificial hormones in the food chain);
10. Fire in the Australian environment;
11. Incineration of wastes;
12. Trade development for Small to Medium Enterprises (SMEs);
13. Value adding to resources and downstream processing including timber and pulp;
14. Local Government boundaries;
15. Preventing loss of productive agricultural lands;
16. Taking the "waste" out of water;
17. Future of Rangeland Management in WA; and
18. Federal-State funding.

After considerable discussion, including the examination of a list of activities of other similar Australian Parliamentary Committees, the Committee resolved to focus on three areas to be considered in detail: energy and renewable energy; greenhouse emissions in relation to the resources sector; and value adding to resources.

While the Committee maintains an interest on all areas within its portfolio, the Committee resolved to actively develop its knowledge and understanding of these areas.

(i) *Energy and renewable energy.*

Correspondence to the Committee (see Section 1.6(a)(ii)) questioned the reliability, performance, and service standards of Western Power. The Committee was also interested in the implications of desegregation of WA power supply on service delivery.

The Committee visited BP's Kwinana Refinery in October 2003 and received a briefing from BP staff regarding BP's role in sustainable energy production in Western Australia and the world. The briefing included information on BP's refinery operations, including details of the refinery's improvements in energy efficiency, fuel pricing, BP's national and global renewable energy strategies, and environmental management at Kwinana.

(ii) *Greenhouse emissions in relation to the resources sector.*

The Committee discussed the issue of Greenhouse gas emissions, especially in relation to WA minerals/export sector and has corresponded with the Greenhouse Task Force on this matter. The Committee is seeking information as to whether, in developing the State-based inventory system, the taskforce has considered alternative methods to the assessment of greenhouse gas emissions in Western Australia on a per capita basis, or other measures of greenhouse emission relative to economic outputs such as the value of production.

(iii) *Value adding to resources.*

The Committee have been particularly interested in the issue of value adding to resources in the timber industry, and have discussed potential areas of value adding, particularly in the area of pulp and pine board processing.

(iv) *Training, apprenticeships, traineeships and group training schemes.*

Subsequent to developing the above three areas, the Committee received correspondence regarding training, apprenticeships, traineeships and group training schemes, and after further discussion, resolved to put this issue on its priority of three in place of greenhouse emissions.

The Committee has resolved to gather information on:

- the number of complaints made by consumers against builders insurance claims;
- trends in accident statistics in the building and construction industry;
- the number of registered builders versus number of completions;
- the registration process for group schemes and host employers; and
- current research and statistics regarding both apprenticeships and traineeships - starts and finishes (distinguishing between apprenticeships and traineeships).

(v) ***Other matters.***

Free trade: The Committee considered the question of free trade agreements and possible impacts on Western Australia. The Committee sought advice from State Treasury on the impact of the impending free trade agreement between Australia and the United States of America on the Western Australian economy.

(c) **Conferences.**

(i) ***NCPWEC 2002 (SA).***

The National Conference of Public Works and Environment Committees (NCPWEC 2002), a meeting of all relevant Australian and New Zealand parliamentary committees, was held in Adelaide between 30 September and 2 October 2002. The conference ran on the theme of Water Management, and addressed issues of sustainable water use and salinity.

At the conference, the Economics and Industry Standing Committee accepted a nomination that Western Australia host the 2003 meeting.

(ii) ***Renewable Energy Forum (ACT).***

The Renewable Energy Forum (Canberra, 11 October 2002) was part of the Standing Committee on Planning & Environment in the Legislative Assembly, Australian Capital Territory, inquiry into a renewable energy strategy for the ACT. The conference examined the feasibility of options for increasing the proportion of renewable energy consumed in the ACT, using existing or emerging technologies such as solar, wind, mini-hydro, biomass, landfill gas and geothermal.

The Committee resolved to send the Principal Research Officer to the meeting and receive a briefing on the conference on his return.

The focus of the conference was on: the feasibility of renewable energy sources providing the Territory's energy needs; the appropriateness of setting targets for renewable energy use; and any other strategies to reduce the consumption of fossil fuels in the ACT. The conference concluded that energy efficiency provide most

immediate gains in sustainability planning, and that integration of utilities in the ACT - especially water and power - would provide the greatest benefits for sustainability planning.

(iii) *Adapting to climate change (ACT).*

The conference on “Living with Climate Change” (18 - 19 December 2002, Canberra) brought together selected industry and science leaders to progress the issue of climate change impacts and adaptation and provided input to Australia’s Forward Strategy on Climate Change.

The conference, held in Canberra, was jointly hosted by the Australian Academy of Science, the Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering, the Australian Academy of the Humanities, and the Academy of Social Sciences of Australia with the support of the Australian Greenhouse Office.

Attendance at the conference was by invitation only, and the Committee’s Principal Research Officer, Dr Ray Wills had been invited to attend. The conference provide a unique opportunity to obtain the collective thinking of scientists and industry leaders on issues of climate change on a range of aspects relevant to the Committee’s portfolio responsibilities. The Committee resolved to send Dr Wills to the meeting and receive a briefing on the conference on his return.

Its purpose was to engage leaders from business, science and the community in discussion about the need for Australians to adapt to the impacts of climate change. It marks the beginning of what is expected to be a sustained debate and sharing of information. An important aspect of the conference was the involvement of a broad range of presenters, drawn largely from the different Academies and offering social as well as scientific perspectives on the need for change and possible ways in which this could be effected. The conference also represented an important first step in broadening the public debate so as to include impacts and adaptation on an agenda that has until now been dominated by considerations of mitigation.

(iv) *Energy WA 2003 (WA).*

Energy 2003 (WA) - Energy in Western Australia 2003 was held in Perth 26-27 March 2003. The Western Australian energy sector is undergoing significant change. Many prominent speakers from a range of energy sectors addressed topics including energy policy for Western Australia, developments in the upstream and downstream gas industries, the future of sustainable energy, and the changing electricity industry. This conference was relevant to the portfolio responsibility of the Committee, provided information on an area of interest for the Committee (see Section 1.6(b)) and of potential relevance to a future inquiry.

(v) NCPWEC 2003 (WA).

The Economics and Industry Standing Committee hosted the 2003 National Conference of Public Works and Environment Committees (NCPWEC 2003), a meeting of all relevant Australian and New Zealand parliamentary committees.

The conference theme was “The sustainability of regional development - addressing the triple bottom line.” The focus of the conference on infrastructure scale and importance in export revenues, combined with unique landscape and environment.

The 2003 conference ran from Sunday 29 June 2003 to Thursday 3 July 2003.

As the conference host, the Committee’s work in this reporting period included development of business plan, program of speakers, management of logistics, and co-ordination of associated events.

Further outcomes from this conference will be reported in separate report compiling the conference papers, and in the Committee’s 2003/2004 annual report.

1.7 Committee - summary of work.

(a) Correspondence.

The Committee received 101 letters raising a variety of issues with the Committee including 46 that specifically raised a range of subjects of significance to the Committee’s portfolio responsibilities (key areas described in Section 1.6(a) above).

(b) Briefings.

Pursuant to Assembly Standing Order 264, the Committee has power to send for persons, papers and records. The Committee received an informal briefing in preparation for the Committee’s Strata Management Industry inquiry (Table 1.4).

The Committee also received a briefing from staff of BP’s Kwinana Refinery when the Committee visited the refinery on the 23 October 2003 as a part of information gathering in relation to energy and renewable energy (see Section 1.6(b)(i)).

Table 1.4 Briefings provided to the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2002 - 30 June 2003.

Date	Witness	Position	Organisation
21 August 2002	Dr Catherine Bennett	Senior Policy Officer	Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
21 August 2002	Mr Bill Mitchell	Manager, Policy, Policy and Education Directorate	Department of Consumer and Employment Protection
23 October 2002	Mr Peter Metcalfe	External Affairs Manager	BP Kwinana Refinery
23 October 2002	Dr Rod Lukatelich	Environmental Manager	BP Kwinana Refinery
23 October 2002	Mr Chad Bishop	HSE & Business Support Leader	BP Kwinana Refinery
23 October 2002	Ms Rachel Lewis	Business Development Analyst	BP Kwinana Refinery

(c) Public hearings.

During the period 1 July 2002 to 30 June 2003, the Committee conducted 29 public hearings, taking evidence from numerous witnesses during formal hearings to assist with its investigations (Table 1.5).

(d) Investigative travel.

(i) Site visits - intrastate.

The Committee visited BP's Kwinana Refinery on the 23 October 2003 as a part of information gathering in relation to energy and renewable energy (Table 1.6).

The Committee also visited several strata properties in Busselton on 28 January 2003 during its Strata Management Industry inquiry (Table 1.6).

Table 1.5 Public Hearings of the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2002 - 30 June 2003.

Date	Witness	Position	Organisation
8 November 2002	Mr C Noble	Strata Titles Legislative Review Officer	DOLA
8 November 2002	Mr R Lambert	Senior Research Officer	Valuer General's Office
8 November 2002	Dr C Bennett	Senior Policy Officer	DOCEP
8 November 2002	Mr R Kronberger	Strata Titles Referee	Ministry of Justice
8 November 2002	Ms J Eckert	Chairperson	REBA
8 November 2002	Mr J Angus	Author and Strata Manager	Strata Information Resources
8 November 2002	Ms B Grigo	Strata Manager	Strata Asset Services
8 November 2002	Mr M Atkinson	President	STIWA
8 November 2002	Mr P Munday	Strata Manger	REIWA
8 November 2002	Mr C James	Lawyer	Law Society WA
9 December 2002	Ms M Boyden	Real Estate Agent	Murphy Boyden Real Estate
9 December 2002	Mr G Gilmore	Strata Manager	Wades First National Real Estate
9 December 2002	Ms L Murphy	Real Estate Agent	Wades First National Real Estate
9 December 2002	Mr A Pandal	Real Estate Agent	John Mathew & Sons
9 December 2002	Mr W Walker	Real Estate Agent	Goldfields Realty
28 January 2003	Mr J O'Malley	Strata Manager	Busselton Strata Managers
28 January 2003	Ms E Logiudice	Strata Manager	Logiudice Property Group and Strata Manager Professionals
28 January 2003	Mr R Bromell	Private	

Date	Witness	Position	Organisation
28 January 2003	Mr P Grant	Private	
28 January 2003	Mr T Black	Owner	
28 January 2003	Mr D Lucas	Private	
28 January 2003	Mr R Clarke	Owner	
28 January 2003	Mrs L Clarke	Owner	
13 November 2002	Mr C Pope	Private Owner	
13 November 2002	Mr R Sharland	Strata Manager	Independent Strata Services
27 November 2002	Ms M Edwards	Strata Manager	Blue Moon Realty
27 November 2002	Ms E Logiudice	Strata Manager	Logiudice Property Group
4 December 2002	Mr R Kronberger	Strata Titles Referee	Ministry of Justice

Table 1.6 Site visits by the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2002 - 30 June 2003.

Date	Witness	Position	Organisation
23 October 2002	Mr Peter Metcalfe	External Affairs Manager	BP Kwinana Refinery
28 January 2003	Ms E Logiudice	Strata Manager	Logiudice Property Group and Strata Manager Professionals

(ii) Site visits - interstate.

The Committee met with a range of persons and organisations interstate during its Strata Management Industry inquiry (Table 1.7).

Table 1.7 Interstate meetings held by the Economics and Industry Standing Committee, 1 July 2002 - 30 June 2003.

Date	Witness	Position	Organisation
18 November 2002	Mr F Andreone	Lawyer	Andreones NSW
18 November 2002	Mr P Berry	A/Manager, Strategic Policy	NSW Department of Fair Trading
18 November 2002	Ms L Porter	A/Principal Policy Officer	NSW Department of Fair Trading
18 November 2002	Mr A McLean	Manager, Strata Schemes and Mediation Services	NSW Department of Fair Trading
18 November 2002	Ms M Brodie	Policy Officer, Strategic Policy	NSW Department of Fair Trading
18 November 2002	Mr D Wong	Senior Project Manager	NSW Department of Fair Trading
19 November 2002	Ms R Janes	Partner	Herd and Janes Lawyers QLD
19 November 2002	Dr R Priebsenow	Director, Cadastral Policy	QLD Department of Natural Resources and Mines
19 November 2002	Ms S Garvey	Principal Policy Officer	QLD Department of Tourism, Racing and Fair Trading
19 November 2002	Mr C Young	Adjudicator	Office of the Commissioner for Body Corporate and Community Management
19 November 2002	Prof B Duncan	Faculty of Law	QLD University of Technology
19 November 2002	Ms A Wallace	Faculty of Law	QLD University of Technology
19 November 2002	Mr S Thomas	Business Regulation Reform Unit	QLD Department of State Development
19 November 2002	Ms C Castley	Principal Policy Officer	QLD Department of Premier and Cabinet

Date	Witness	Position	Organisation
20 November 2002	Mr S Libbis	Registrar General Land Services Group	SA Department of Administrative and Information Services
20 November 2002	Mr G Borret	Policy Officer	SA Department of Administrative and Information Services
20 November 2002	Mr D Watson	Policy Officer	SA Department of Administrative and Information Services
20 November 2002	Ms S Brown	Adviser	SA Attorney General's Department
20 November 2002	Ms E Emmanuel	Member	Real Estate Institute of South Australia

(e) Reports tabled.

The Committee tabled the following reports in the 2002/2003 reporting period:

Report No 3 Economics and Industry Standing Committee Annual Report 2001 - 2002 (22 August 2002)

Report No 4 Inquiry into the Western Australian Strata Management Industry - Proceedings of a Public Forum 8 November 2002 (27 February 2003)

Report No 5 Inquiry into the Western Australian Strata Management Industry (26 June 2003)

1.8 Work in progress.

(a) NCPWEC 2003.

The Committee recently hosted the 2003 National Conference of Public Works and Environment Committees, a meeting of all relevant Australian and New Zealand parliamentary committees. The conference ran 30 June to 3 July 2003 with the theme "The sustainability of regional development - addressing the triple bottom line."

Further outcomes from this conference will be reported in separate report compiling the conference papers, and in the Committee's 2002/2003 annual report.

(b) Dairy inquiry.

The Committee has just commenced an inquiry investigating the sustainability of the dairy industry in Western Australia. The matter was referred to the Committee on the 25 June 2003.

CHAPTER 2 FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

2.1 Introduction.

The Economics and Industry Standing Committee does not have its own formal budget and is funded out of the budget of the Legislative Assembly. Approval for all expenditures is required on a case-by-case basis and is entirely at the discretion of the Speaker.

2.2 Expenditure.

The Committee's expenditure for the financial year 2002/2003 (in accordance with Standing Order 276) was \$82 136 (Table 2.1).

Printing costs of Volume Two of the Bellevue Hazardous Waste Fire Inquiry, tabled in the Legislative Assembly on Thursday, 27 June 2002, are reported in these figures.

In addition, the Committee incurred costs of \$39 728 in the 2002/2003 financial year in hosting the NCPWEC 2003 (see 1.6(c)(v)). The conference spans the 2002/2003 and 2003/2004 financial years, and additional expenditure will be reported in the Committee's 2003/2004 Annual Report.

Total expenditure for the conference is projected to be approximately \$87 000. This expenditure is offset by income of \$61 386 received in the form of delegates fees (Table 2.2), and funds provided by the Legislative Assembly in part support of the conference.

Projected net expenditure for the NCPWEC 2003 in the 2003 calendar year is estimated to be approximately \$25 600 (Legislative Assembly part support). Final net expenditure will be reported in the Committee's 2003/2004 Annual Report.

As a Standing Committee with portfolio responsibility in the area of Economics and Industry, it is entirely appropriate that the Committee be fiscally responsible. In a year when government requested fiscal restraint, the Speaker requested that all Committees show similar fiscal responsibility. The Committee made savings on all allocated budgets in 2002/03, and will continue that philosophy to ensure that savings are made, wherever possible, in funds allocated in 2003/04.

Table 2.1 Committee expenditure for the financial year 2002/2003.

Item	Amount
Advertising	\$5 823
Conference Fees	\$1 911
Printing	\$4 889
Protocol (Food, Beverages and Gifts)	\$1 710
Travel	
Members' Fares	\$9 840
Members' Allowances	\$4 220
Staff Fares	\$10 531
Staff Allowances	\$3 484
	\$28 075
NCPWEC 2003 Expenditure as at 30 June 2003 ^{1,2}	\$39 728
TOTAL	\$82 136

¹ NCPWEC 2003 Commitments 2003/2004 financial year - \$47 209.

² Total Committed NCPWEC 2003 - \$86 937.

Other notes:

- Salaries of committee staff are not included.
- Costs of shared administrative expenses, including lease costs for committee accommodation, are not included.

Table 2.2 Conference Income for NCPWEC 2003.*

Item	Amount
Conference Income as at 30 June 2003	\$61 386

* Final income and expenditure for NCPWEC 2003 to be reported in the Committee's 2003/2004 Annual Report.