



OUTER SUBURBAN/INTERFACE SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Request for submissions:

Inquiry into the sustainable development of Agribusiness in outer suburban Melbourne

The Victorian Parliament's Outer Suburban/Interface Services and Development Committee is seeking submissions on its new inquiry into the production, processing and distribution of agricultural products in the interface municipalities and peri-urban areas of Melbourne. In particular, the Committee has been asked to:

- 1) Identify the types of agricultural sectors operating in interface municipalities and peri-urban areas;
- 2) Examine the role of agribusiness in enhancing economic growth, increasing jobs and the sector's contribution towards promoting healthy, sustainable and prosperous outer suburban areas;
- 3) Investigate the role of planning in encouraging the development of agribusiness;
- 4) Analyse the options for sustainable food production, including environmental stewardship and local food production;
- 5) Investigate impediments faced by the industry to its long term growth and sustainability and recommend options to resolve these barriers;
- 6) Highlight niche and well performing sectors operating in the interface of Melbourne, with particular reference to viticulture, horticulture and sustainable agriculture;
- 7) Examine exemplary programs supported by governments (at all levels), the private sector and non-government organisations, which assist the sustainability of the agribusiness sector; and
- 8) Investigate national and international initiatives relevant to these issues.

The Committee invites written submissions from individuals and organisations addressing any aspect of the terms of reference. The closing date for submissions is **MONDAY, 8 DECEMBER 2008**. All submissions are public documents, unless confidentiality is requested. Please contact the Committee's secretariat on Tel: (03) 8682 2826 if you wish to make a confidential submission or if you have any questions on the inquiry.

The Committee welcomes submissions in either hard copy or electronic form (preferably as a Word document sent by email to: osisdc@parliament.vic.gov.au). Submissions should be sent to:

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East Melbourne, VIC 3002

Email: osisdc@parliament.vic.gov.au

Mr George Seitz, MP
Chair