



PARLIAMENT
OF AUSTRALIA

2026–27 Supplementary Budget Estimates

Environment and Communications Legislation Committee

Monday 26 October and Tuesday 27 October 2026

Committee Room 2S3, Parliament House, Canberra

Times listed are indicative only.



Hearing location

Committee Room 2S3,
Parliament House, Canberra
Waiting room: Committee Room 1S4



Broadcasts of proceedings

Television channel: 111
Radio: 91.1

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Committee rooms

Committee Room 2S3: (02) 6277 5853

Committee Room 1S4: (02) 6277 5847



Committee members

Senator Varun Ghosh, Chair
Senator Sarah Hanson-Young, Deputy Chair
Senator Michelle Ananda-Rajah
Senator the Hon Carol Brown
Senator the Hon Sarah Henderson
Senator Dean Smith

Ministers attending

Senator the Hon Tim Ayres
Senator the Hon Murray Watt
Senator the Hon Nita Green

Secretariat

Tas Larnach, Committee Secretary
Elizabeth Hickey, A/g Estimates Officer



Due dates for questions on notice (QoNs)

5 November 2026: Senators' written QoNs

17 December 2026: answers to QoNs

Monday, 26 October

Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water

9.00am	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Corporate matters and general questions
9.30am	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Outcome 1: Maintain a secure, reliable and affordable energy system; support the transition of Australia's economy to net-zero emissions by 2050; support actions to promote adaptation and strengthen resilience of Australia's economy, society and environment; and take a leadership role internationally in responding to climate change. Program 1.1: Support reliable, secure and affordable energy Program 1.2: Reduce Australia's greenhouse gas emissions
9.50am	Morning tea
10.30am	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Outcome 1 - Continued
11.15am	Climate Change Authority
11.45am	Clean Energy Finance Corporation
12.15pm	Emission Reduction Assurance Committee
12.45pm	Lunch
1.45pm	Snowy Hydro Limited
2.15pm	Australian Energy Regulator (AER)
2.45pm	Australian Renewable Energy Agency (ARENA)
3.15pm	Clean Energy Regulator
3.45pm	Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner
4.00pm	Afternoon tea

4.15pm	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Outcome 4: Improve the health of rivers and wetlands and enhance the sustainable, efficient and productive use of Australia's water resources. Program 4.1 - Protect, restore and sustainably manage Australia's water resources, including: Environmental Water Division & Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder Murray-Darling Basin Authority National Water Grid Authority
5.00pm	Inspector-General of Water Compliance
5.30pm	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Outcome 2: Conserve, protect and sustainably manage our natural resources including through a nature positive approach; protect and conserve our natural and cultural heritage; reduce and regulate the use of pollutants and hazardous substances; and take a leadership role on these issues internationally. Program 2.1: Conserve, protect, sustainably manage and restore Australia's natural environment Program 2.2: Protect Australia's cultural, historic and First Nations heritage Program 2.3: Accelerate the transition to a circular economy, while safely managing pollutants and hazardous substances
6.15pm	Sydney Harbour Federation Trust
6.30pm	National Environmental Protection Agency
6.45pm	Dinner
7.45pm	Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water Outcome 3: Advance Australia's environmental, scientific, strategic and economic interests in the Antarctic region by protecting, researching and administering in the region, including through international engagement. Program 3.1: Contribute to Australia's national Antarctic interests through science, environmental management and international engagement, including delivering Australia's scientific research and operations in Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.
8.15pm	Bureau of Meteorology Australian Climate Service
9.00pm	Australian Institute of Marine Science
9.30pm	Evening tea

9.45pm	Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority
10.15pm	Director of National Parks
10.35pm	Threatened Species Scientific Committee
11.00pm	Adjournment

Tuesday, 27 October

Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts, excluding Infrastructure, Transport and Regional Development

9.00am	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts Corporate matters and general questions
9.30am	Outcome 5: Promote an innovative and competitive communications sector, through policy development, advice and program delivery, so all Australians can realise the full potential of digital technologies and communications services. Program 5.1 – Digital Technologies and Communications Services Closing the Gap Outcome 17: Digital Inclusion
10.30am	Morning tea
10.45am	Australian Broadcasting Corporation
12.15pm	Special Broadcasting Service
12.45pm	Lunch
1.45pm (45 min)	Australian Communications and Media Authority
2.30pm (45 min)	Office of the eSafety Commissioner
3.15pm	Afternoon tea
3.30pm	NBN Co Limited
4.15pm	Australia Post

5.15pm	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts Outcome 6: Participation in, and access to, Australia's arts and culture through developing and supporting cultural expression Program 6.1 – Arts and Cultural Development Closing the Gap Outcome 16: First Nations Languages Office for the Arts
6.00pm	Dinner
7.00pm	Creative Australia
8.30pm	Screen Australia
8.45pm	Evening tea
9.00pm	Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts Outcome 7: Contribute to healthy, active communities and a sustainable sport system through policy development, coordination and targeted support. Program 7.1: Sport and Physical Activity
9.45pm	Australian Sports Commission (Australian Institute of Sport)
10.20pm	National Gallery of Australia
10.40pm	National Archives of Australia
11.00pm	Adjournment