



## Second hearing into the harmful and noxious substances treaty

Federal Parliament's Treaties Committee will be holding a second public hearing to examine the transport of Harmful and Noxious Substances (HNS) treaty on Monday, 18 March 2013.

"The 2010 HNS Convention aims to ensure that compensation for damage or pollution resulting from the maritime transport of HNS is available", the Committee Chair, Senator Matthew Thistlethwaite, said.

As part of the Convention, a HNS Fund is to be established so that should damage or pollution from the carriage of HNS by ship occur, prompt, adequate and effective compensation will be available for those persons affected. This fund will be financed by contributions made by those entities that receive bulk HNS cargoes.

"The requirement to pay contributions into the fund has caused some concern for those industries who regularly receive HNS and the Committee is interested in hearing further evidence before making any recommendations about Australia taking binding action on this treaty," Senator Thistlethwaite, said.

**Public Hearing: Monday 18 March 2013, Committee Room 2R1, Parliament House Canberra**

- 11.00am**      **Gas Energy Australia**  
**Plastics and Chemicals Industries Association (PACIA)**  
**Kwinana Industries Council (via teleconference)**
- 11.45am**      **Department of Infrastructure and Transport and the Australian Maritime Safety Authority**

The hearing will be broadcast through: [www.aph.gov.au/live](http://www.aph.gov.au/live)

Copies of the treaties and submissions received can be found at:  
[http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary\\_Business/Committees/House\\_of\\_Representatives\\_Committees?url=jsct/under\\_review.htm](http://www.aph.gov.au/Parliamentary_Business/Committees/House_of_Representatives_Committees?url=jsct/under_review.htm).

Alternatively, interested parties may email [jsct@aph.gov.au](mailto:jsct@aph.gov.au) or phone (02) 6277 4002.

### **MEDIA CONTACTS**

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