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## MEDIA RELEASE

### The technological future of our regions

The Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development has announced a new inquiry looking into technology and the agriculture and mining sectors.

Over recent decades, technology has reshaped our lives and society. This transformation has been particularly felt in our regions, bringing both new opportunities and challenges. As innovation advances, our regions must also adapt to a technological future.

Committee Chair and MP for Albury, Mr Justin Clancy, said the inquiry will examine what opportunities technologies and innovations may present for regional NSW, what barriers to their take up exist and how the NSW Government may support the use and adoption of technologies in these sectors.

"Technology will play a key role in meeting long-term challenges for our agriculture and mining sectors. We need to make sure our regional communities are supported in adopting technological advancements, and not left to catch up with research and development," Mr Clancy said.

The Committee will also consider technologically-driven past, present and future trends in the agriculture and mining workforces.

"Technological innovation and adoption has already impacted regional workforces. The future of work in the regions will continue to change and we want to know what this may mean for regional communities."

The Committee is currently inviting submissions from organisations, businesses, industries, community groups, universities and the public. More information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference and information on how to make a submission, is available on the Committee's [webpage](#).

The closing date for submissions is **14 February 2022**.

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