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MEDIA RELEASE

Unearthing answers about zombie developments

Inquiry into historical development consents in NSW

A new inquiry by the Legislative Assembly Committee on Environment and Planning will be looking into historical development consents in New South Wales. Also known as "zombie developments", historical development consents are development projects which were approved years or sometimes decades ago but remain unfinished with minimal work completed. Sometimes, work on these developments may restart after years or decades of no activity.

'Zombie developments reflect the law at time the development consent was initially granted. Planning and environmental standards have changed since some of these older consents were issued and the community's expectations have shifted too,' said Chair, Clayton Barr MP.

'We are calling for submissions on the impact of these development consents on the NSW planning system, development industry and property ownership. We would also like to consider policy and legal solutions to address the issue, including what other jurisdictions have done to address similar issues.'

'The Committee would really like to hear from members of the community, businesses and local councils who live near or are affected by historical development consents.'

As part of the inquiry, the Committee will also consider any barriers in using the current planning framework to address the issue and the benefits and costs to taxpayers if action is taken on the issue.

Further information on the inquiry including the terms of reference and how to make a submission is available on the Committee's [webpage](#).

Submission close on **Monday, 3 June 2024**.

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