

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development

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MEDIA RELEASE

Parliamentary Committee heading to the Riverina and Murray regions

The Committee on Investment, Industry and Regional Development is travelling to the Riverina and Murray regions as part of its inquiry into the impacts of the *Water Amendment (Restoring Our Rivers) Act (Cth) 2023* on regional communities in NSW.

The Committee is investigating how changes to water management in the Murray-Darling Basin introduced since 2023 have impacted the state's regional communities.

Committee Chair, Mr Roy Butler, said the public hearings in Griffith and Deniliquin are an important opportunity to hear from those directly impacted by the Act.

"The Committee received a significant number of submissions from the Riverina and Murray areas," Mr Butler said. "We understand these regions are vulnerable to water scarcity, and concerned about the impacts further water buybacks might have on agriculture, commerce and their communities."

"These visits will also allow us to understand how the NSW and Australian governments can adjust their support to better help impacted areas."

Details of the public hearings are:

- Southside Griffith Leagues Club, Tuesday 10 June 2025 at 11.30am to 5.15pm
- Deniliquin Town Hall, Wednesday 11 June 2025 at 11.30am to 6.00pm.

Mr Butler emphasised that these would be the first of a series of public hearings held across regional NSW this year.

"We know the impacts of the Act differ across NSW," Mr Butler said. "We will be holding further public hearings in other parts of the state to ensure our report and recommendations reflect these experiences."

Anyone interested in the inquiry can view the hearing schedule and read the submissions on <u>the</u> <u>Committee's webpage</u>.

The hearings will also be live streamed on the NSW's Parliament's website.

People interested in learning more about the parliamentary inquiry process can also attend an inperson information session being held alongside the hearings. To learn more and register your interest, please contact: <u>investmentindustry@parliament.nsw.gov.au</u>

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