

**Submission  
No 36**

## **SUSTAINABILITY OF ENERGY SUPPLY AND RESOURCES IN NSW**

**Name:** Frances Myers

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Frances Myers

Dear Committee,

Please accept this submission on the Inquiry into the Sustainability of Energy Supply and Resources in NSW.

I am writing to acknowledge that global warming is happening, at an alarming rate, and major energy changes are underway globally. These affect Australia as well.

We need to stop using fossil fuels, stop exporting them, and create jobs for workers displaced by this.

Regional communities are looking for long-term support to pursue emerging economic opportunities, like renewable energy, to replace jobs in coal mining.

I'd like to see detailed regional planning, driven by communities, and strong public investment to seize new opportunities and prepare our economies for the long-term.

I don't want to see NSW open up coal seam gasfields or pursue new coal mines in our best farming country. Mining is polluting our air and draining our water at an alarming rate.

In regional areas we are already dealing with the impacts of climate change in the form of more extreme heatwaves, droughts and bushfires.

NSW needs to choose a new path that is focused on preparing us for the future and which ensures that regional areas are at the forefront of emerging economic opportunities in renewables, agriculture and manufacturing.

I note that globally many of the customers that NSW supplies coal to are already shifting to renewable energy, and that creates substantial uncertainty for the coal mining industry. Four power stations are scheduled to close down over the two decades. People are so angry at electricity prices and unreliable supply they are turning away from the grid in favour of renewables and home storage batteries.

Regional communities should not be subject to economic shocks and negative impacts from changing markets and a failure by our governments to lead and to plan.

We need to plan now to prepare for these changes, and to ensure that there is support for workers and towns affected, and a strong plan for new industries and new opportunities.

Please back substantial public investment into our regions and community-driven diversification plans, especially in the Hunter Valley, and fast-track plans for renewable energy and storage to prepare us for the long-term.

I live in the Snowy-Monaro area. We are not as badly affected by the change as other areas such as the Hunter and Illawarra are, but our agriculture is affected by fires and droughts and our tourist industry and wildlife by warming snowfields.

We can work together to slow down the effects of climate change and adapt to new conditions, but we need to start NOW, not leave it to the next election.