

**Submission  
No 101**

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

**Organisation:** Groundswell Gloucester

**Date Received:** 10 September 2019

We support the Hunter Renewal Roadmap and its demands for:

- A community-driven process that builds on the Hunter region's strengths and has strong local participation embedded in the process.
- New well-paid and secure jobs for workers affected by mining downturns.
- A \$2 billion fund dedicated to coal mining regions to help us plan and prepare.
- A Hunter Diversification Taskforce led by locals from the community, unions and business to coordinate planning.
- A Hunter Regional Diversification Plan building on our strengths and bringing development of industry, labour-intensive projects and education, training and technology hubs.
- Better laws for rehabilitation of mines and power stations, boosting the jobs available now and into the future.

As a community that has weathered the stress and anxiety of resource extraction uncertainty since 1995, the threat of a coal seam gas field and an open cut coal mine less than three kms from 3,000 people; this is a timely inquiry.

Our region has transitioned with tourism, small business and agricultural certainty as the backbone of our economy and community life. With a prospective solar farm and community energy group working on other initiatives, reinvestment in our business centre and an increasing population due to relocations for a clean, green lifestyle, Gloucester is poised to move forward. Connected to passenger rail, with a wonderful recreational park and swimming centre, small hospital and new aged care centre, older people and retirees are becoming a strong part of the economy as they need services, buy local goods and contribute to the social fabric of the community. Three large businesses have now decided to stay and expand due to the withdrawal of AGL's gas field exploration and the govt refusal of the Rocky Hill coal mine. Transition is the key. Sustainable futures are the lifelines.

Yours sincerely,

Julie Lyford - Chair Groundswell Gloucester New South Wales, 2422, Australia