

**Submission
No 119**

SUSTAINABILITY OF ENERGY SUPPLY AND RESOURCES IN NSW

Name: Mr Denis Rothwell

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I am a carpenter/ handyman/ welder living at Nth Rothbury in the Lower Hunter.

I would like to see the committee holding public hearings in the heart of the energy supply area in Singleton or Muswellbrook. It is more obvious each day that coal will become less important, at least in supplying local energy, as it is replaced with renewables which have the advantages of being cheaper, much cleaner, while still providing significant employment.

If the cost of the health affects of mining, transporting and burning of coal were included in the costs of coal, it would have been replaced many years ago. The incidence of respiratory illness in the Hunter is way beyond the national average.

I 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.

Yours sincerely,

Denis Rothwell

