



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4

Budget Estimates 2019-2020



Report 43

May 2020

4

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Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Budget Estimates 2019-2020

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Terms of reference

1. That on tabling, the Budget Estimates and related papers for the financial year 2019 – 2020 presenting the amounts to be appropriated from the Consolidated Fund be referred to the Portfolio Committees for inquiry and report.
2. That for the purposes of the Budget Estimates inquiry 2019 – 2020:
 - (a) initial hearings be scheduled over 12 days from 29 to 30 August, 2 to 6 September and 9 to 13 September 2019, with the examination of portfolios on those days to be specified by further resolution of the House,
 - (b) supplementary hearings be scheduled over five days from 28 October to 1 November 2019, or on such other dates as required, with the examination of portfolios on those days to be determined by resolution of each committee,¹
 - (c) further hearings be scheduled over 12 days from 2 to 17 March 2020, with the examination of portfolios on those days to be specified by further resolution of the House and the time for giving of evidence by ministers, parliamentary secretaries and officers to be determined by resolution of each committee,²
 - (d) each scheduled day for the initial and further rounds³ of hearings will begin at 9.30 am and conclude by 8.30 pm.⁴
 - (e) the committees must hear evidence in public,
 - (f) the committees may ask for explanations from ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure,
 - (g) witnesses, including ministers, may not make an opening statement before the committee commences questions,
 - (h) members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two days, excluding Saturday and Sunday, following a hearing,
 - (i) answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, except those answers for which confidentiality is requested, after they have been circulated to committee members, and
 - (j) committees are to present a final report to the House by 30 June 2020.

¹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 16 October 2019, p 520.

² *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 November 2019, p 729.

³ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 16 October 2019, p 520.

⁴ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 November 2019, p 729.

3. That this House resolve to adopt a revised schedule for future budget estimates inquiries similar to the Senate estimates process comprised of:
- (a) an initial round of estimates hearings over 12 days on the tabling of the Budget Estimates and related papers,
 - (b) supplementary hearings scheduled over five days in October or November of that year, and
 - (c) further hearings scheduled over 12 days in February or March of the following year.

The terms of reference were referred to the committee by the House on 8 May 2019, and amended on 16 October 2019 and 20 November 2019.⁵

⁵ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 8 May 2019, pp 117-119; 16 October 2019, p 520; 20 November 2019, p 729.

Committee details

Committee members

The Hon Mark Banasiak MLC	Shooters, Fishers and Farmers	<i>Chair</i>
The Hon Emma Hurst MLC	Animal Justice Party	<i>Deputy Chair</i>
The Hon Lou Amato MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Catherine Cusack MLC	Liberal Party	
The Hon Peter Primrose MLC	Australian Labor Party	
The Hon Trevor Khan MLC	The Nationals	
The Hon Mick Veitch MLC	Australian Labor Party	

Non-substantive members who attended the hearings

Ms Abigail Boyd MLC	The Greens
Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC	The Greens
Mr Justin Field MLC	Independent
The Hon Rose Jackson MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Courtney Houssos MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Shayne Mallard MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Taylor Martin MLC	Liberal Party
The Hon Daniel Mookhey MLC	Australian Labor Party
The Hon Tara Moriarty MLC	Australian Labor Party
Mr David Shoebridge MLC	The Greens

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Chair's foreword

I am pleased to present this report on the Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020. This annual inquiry into the Budget Estimates ensures parliamentary oversight of the Budget, and provides an important mechanism for the accountability of the executive government to the Legislative Council.

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry is responsible for the scrutiny of the following portfolio areas:

- Agriculture and Western New South Wales
- Water, Property and Housing
- Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade.

The key evidence gathering mechanism of this Inquiry is through the conduct of public hearings. This report lists the key issues raised during the hearings. Transcripts, tabled documents and additional answers provided after the hearings are published on the [Inquiry's webpage](#).

On behalf of the committee, I would like to thank the ministers and their officers who assisted the committee during this important inquiry. I am grateful to my fellow committee members and the secretariat staff for their contributions to the inquiry process.



Hon Mark Banasiak MLC
Chair

Chapter 1 Introduction

The Inquiry into Budget Estimates is one of the key mechanisms for parliamentary committees to scrutinise government expenditure, performance and effectiveness. It holds ministers and government officials to account and provides a greater level of transparency to the public.

The Inquiry is conducted annually by the Legislative Council's Portfolio Committees. Each committee examines the budget estimates of its responsible portfolios, with ministers and senior public servants as the primary witnesses. The evidence taking process of the Inquiry consists of answers provided during public hearings and answers to post-hearing written questions (known as supplementary questions). There is no provision for written submissions.

Referral of the Budget Estimates 2019-2020

- 1.1 The Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 ('the Inquiry') was referred to the portfolio committees on 8 May 2019 by the Legislative Council.⁶ The budget estimates resolution establishing the Inquiry and that sets out the rules for the Inquiry is reproduced on page iv and v.
- 1.2 The budget estimates resolution this year had significant procedural changes compared to previous years. The amount of time for questioning for each portfolio area was significantly increased, and the duration of the whole inquiry across all the portfolio committees was 12 days, compared to previous years of five. The variations to the conduct of the Inquiry are outlined below.

Total hearing time for questioning

- 1.3 The resolution authorised the committees to conduct three rounds of hearings: initial, supplementary and further hearings, from 9.30 am to 8.30 pm, to examine all portfolios for each minister.
- 1.4 The total amount of time available for scrutiny was nearly tripled compared to previous estimates inquiries. In the past, only two rounds of hearings (initial and supplementary) were conducted and portfolios under the same minister were examined for under four hours duration. That meant that Ministers and senior public servants could generally face a maximum of eight hours of questioning over two budget estimates hearings. In contrast, under the new resolution Ministers and senior public servants could face potentially up to 33 hours of questioning over three different hearings.
- 1.5 On 16 October 2019, the House amended the resolution to require only initial and further rounds of the hearings to begin at 9.30 am and conclude by 8.30 pm. The committees were therefore able to determine when and how much time was required for supplementary hearings, if any.⁷

⁶ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 8 May 2019, pp 117-119.

⁷ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 16 October 2019, p 520.

Witnesses

- 1.6 The resolution required ministers, parliamentary secretaries or officers of departments, statutory bodies or corporations, relating to the items of proposed expenditure, to appear in the morning session, and only officers giving further evidence during the afternoon session.⁸ It is noted that parliamentary secretaries were not required to give evidence to earlier estimates inquiries.
- 1.7 On 20 November 2019, the resolution was further amended so that, for the further hearings, each committee could determine who (ministers, parliamentary secretaries, public servants, or representatives from statutory bodies) they wanted to call and for how long they were to appear within the parameters of 9.30am to 8.30pm.⁹

Number of hearings

- 1.8 The Budget Estimates resolution, as amended, stipulated that the initial hearings be held between 29 August and 13 September 2019, supplementary hearings from 28 October to 1 November 2019, and further hearings from 2 to 17 March 2019.¹⁰

Hearings

- 1.9 The committee held 9 public hearings as follows:
- Friday 6 September 2019 – Water, Property and Housing
 - Tuesday 10 September 2019 – Agriculture and Western New South Wales
 - Friday 13 September 2019 – Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
 - Thursday 31 October 2019 - Water, Property and Housing (supplementary hearing)
 - Thursday 31 October 2019 - Agriculture and Western New South Wales (supplementary hearing)
 - Thursday 31 October 2019 - Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade (supplementary hearing)
 - Monday 2 March 2020 - Agriculture and Western New South Wales (further hearing)
 - Tuesday 10 March 2020 - Water, Property and Housing (further hearing)
 - Tuesday 17 March 2020 - Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade (further hearing).

⁸ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 8 May 2019, pp 117-119.

⁹ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 November 2019, pp 117-119.

¹⁰ *Minutes*, NSW Legislative Council, 20 November 2019, pp 117-119.

Transcripts, questions on notice and supplementary questions

- 1.10** Transcripts of the hearings, questions taken on notice, supplementary questions and answers to these questions are available on the Budget Estimates web page at: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/budgetestimates.

Chapter 2 Issues raised during hearings

This chapter provides a brief summary of key issues raised during the hearings.

Agriculture and Western New South Wales

2.1 A hearing examining the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales was held on Tuesday 10 September 2019. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Drought assistance funds and packages
- Minister's car collision with a group of deer
- Review of animal welfare protections and legislative framework provisions under the Animal Welfare Action Plan
- Animal welfare and transparency of farm animal practices
- Enforcement of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979
- Fish kills in Menindee lakes and other locations, including predictions for 2019-2020 summer
- Appointment of NSW Fresh Milk and Dairy Advocate including their roles and responsibility
- Commercial fishing reform including the structure and the appeal process of the Share Appeal Panel for commercial fishing
- Subsidised share trading scheme for fishermen
- Clean Energy Solutions Plan and climate change mitigation measures
- Aboriginal Cultural Fishing
- Farm Innovation Fund, application and granting process
- Drought Feed Calculator App
- Marine estate management program
- North-west and the Monaro region-specific codes
- Inspections, operations and biosecurity management of intensive animal agriculture facilities
- Proposed establishment of an Agriculture Commissioner
- Animals in medical research
- Reduction in the funding for Local Land Services
- Weeds management.

2.2 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales was held on Thursday 31 October 2019. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Racehorse animal welfare
- Livestock saleyard and abattoir guidelines and inspections
- Agricultural Commissioner
- Rodeos Code of Practice
- Recreational Fishing Trusts
- Dairy Advocate and Dairy Commissioner
- Use of animals in medical research
- Commercial Fishing Allocation Share Appeal Panel.

2.3 A further hearing examining the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales was held on Monday 2 March 2020. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Bushfire impact on primary producers
- Applications for grants and financial assistance from primary producers due to bushfire impact
- Special disaster loans
- Marine sanctuaries in Bateman's Bay
- Labelling of meat and egg products
- Commercial fishing reforms
- Drought relief
- Native vegetation mapping
- Termination of Jock Laurie, former Land and Water Commissioner
- Commercial fishing buy-outs, buy-out packages, shares, leasing
- NSW dairy advocate – roles, responsibilities, cost of employment
- Farm Innovation Fund Loans
- Batemans Bay Marine Park
- Animal Welfare Reform Issue Paper, Department of Primary Industries
- Mud crabs – research, status
- Aboriginal Landcare Education Program.

Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

2.4 A hearing examining the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade was held on Friday 13 September 2019. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Investigation announced by the Premier into Minister Sidoti and the Code of Conduct for Ministers
- Restart NSW funding for infrastructure projects in rural and regional New South Wales
- Coal mining proposals, the requirements for approval of new mines under the Mining Act 1992 and the approval of the Wallarah 2 Coal Mine on the Central Coast
- Sustainability of the brumby population in the Kosciusko National Park and proposals for culling or sterilising of brumbies
- Wood supply agreements and harvesting of timber from north coast and Murray-Darling forests
- Fires in regional New South Wales and the impact on communities and wildlife
- NSW Gas Plan and regulations for all Coal Seam Gas
- Resources for Regions program
- High-use koala habitats in the Braemar State Forest and koala populations
- NSW Firearms Registry program evaluation reports and the legal status of the Firearms Registry Range Users Guide
- Growing Local Economies Fund
- Forestry Corp staffing numbers
- Water licences
- Scoping study on the softwood estate
- Employees at Minerals House
- Wild dog fences
- Port Kembla Community Investment Fund
- NSW Trade off-shore budget.

2.5 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade was held on Thursday 31 October 2019. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Impact of drought on community, industry and international trade
- Government assistance programs for drought affected communities
- Forestry Corporation
- Land-use disputes between coal seam gas and farmers

- Illegal trespassing farms
- Food labelling
- Drought, water supply and dams
- Research and development of plant based food
- Treatment of racehorses.

2.6 A further hearing examining the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade was held on Tuesday 17 March 2020. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Viability of nuclear energy in NSW
- Bushfire recovery and support for businesses
- Tender process resulting in the appointment of Laing O'Rourke for bushfire clean-up program
- Forestry Corporation's targets for hazard reduction in state forests
- Impacts of bushfires on domestic and companion animals (provision of safe places for animal evacuation)
- Status of funding for country/agricultural shows following cancellation of the Royal Easter Show
- Export of live animals from future Western Sydney Aerotropolis
- Koala habitat protection and State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) 44
- Clean up of bushfire affected lands, including removal of hazardous materials
- Jobs creation in regional NSW following the bushfires
- Logging in unburnt state forests
- Force majeure provisions in wood supply agreements
- Weed control on public lands (blackberry control)
- Status of expired Petroleum Exploration Licences (PELs)
- Chief Scientists recommendations on coal seam gas and the Narrabri Santos Gas Project
- Brumby/wild horse control in Kosciuszko National Park
- Resources for Regions Strategic Review
- Delivery of bushfire clean-up program by Laing O'Rourke
- Humane control of pests
- Integrated Forestry Operations Approvals (IFOAs) and site specific conditions
- Evaluation of fire management practices
- Efficiency dividends and employment

- Plans to restore industries in fire and smoke affected communities.

Water, Property and Housing

2.7 A hearing examining the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing was held on Friday 6 September 2019. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Government response and action plan to the Natural Resources Commission inquiry into the Barwon-Darling river system and water management sharing plan
- Warragamba Dam wall raising and regent honeyeaters at the dam
- Impact of the drought on native wildlife
- Overdue water sharing plan audits
- New South Wales towns running out of water, particularly water security for Cobar, Nyngan, Dubbo, Wellington and modelling of future water supply
- Drought and current water restrictions
- Wombat management in the Bendeela Recreational Park controlled by WaterNSW
- Crown land managed and maintained by councils
- Social and affordable housing strategy in New South Wales and Aboriginal community controlled housing providers particularly in relation to the Waterloo redevelopment project
- Inspection and compliance regime operated by the National Resource Access Regulator
- Provision of documents to the Independent Commission Against Corruption concerning Campbell's Stores in The Rocks
- Remote telemetry monitoring of surface water pumping across New South Wales
- Funding for the Safe and Secure Water Program
- Status and operation of the Menindee Lakes Water Saving Project
- Process for considering Aboriginal land claims.

2.8 A supplementary hearing examining the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing was held on Thursday 31 October 2019. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Critical water supply to regional communities
- Regional Town Water Coordinator
- Commonwealth Environmental Water Holder water release order
- Murray-Darling Basin Plan
- Barwon-Darling Water Sharing Plan

- National Infrastructure Water Development Fund
- Water Sharing Plan audits
- National Resource Access Regulator prosecutions
- Hunter Water strategy
- Broken Hill pipeline.

2.9 A further hearing examining the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing was held on Tuesday 10 March 2020. The following issues were raised during the committee's examination of this portfolio:

- Flood plain harvesting
- Social housing backlog
- Drought coordinator and the termination of Mr Jock Laurie's contract
- Desalination plant
- Water security
- Murray Darling Basin Plan
- the lifting of embargo on flood plain harvesting
- Water management issues, including foreign ownership of water rights, a potential water register and measurement of diversions
- Warragamba Dam – recent operations following the bushfires and flooding
- Progress of a state-wide water strategy
- Potential water price increases from the Yanko Creek project
- Bushfire damage and subsequent management of crown land and other public infrastructure
- Unprocessed Aboriginal land claims
- Identified deficiencies in Crown land records
- Review of the travelling stock reserves
- New land for a public cemetery in Sydney
- Sale of public properties
- Relocation of public service offices from the Sydney CBD to Parramatta and Macquarie Park
- The sale of public housing assets and the use of resultant revenue.

Appendix 1 Witnesses at hearings

Water, Property and Housing – Friday 6 September 2019

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Melinda Pavey MP	Minister for Water, Property and Housing
Mr Jim Betts	Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Dr Jim Bentley	Deputy Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Kevin Jones	Interim Managing Director, Sydney Water Corporation
Mr Grant Barnes	Chief Regulatory Officer, Natural Resource Access Regulator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr James McTavish	Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Shaun Smith	Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr David Harris	Chief Executive Officer, Water NSW
Ms Alison Frame	Group Deputy Secretary, Housing and Property
Mr Chris Reynolds	Executive Director, Crown Lands, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Anne Skewes	Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Agriculture and Western New South Wales – Tuesday 10 September 2019

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Adam Marshall MP	Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales
Mr Michael Johnsen MP	Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture

Mr Gary Barnes	Coordinator General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Scott Hansen	Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr David Witherdin	Chief Executive Officer, Local Land Services, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Peter Turnell	Group Director, Recreational and Aboriginal Fisheries, NSW Department of Primary Industries
Dr Natalie Moltschaniwskyj	A/Deputy Director General, Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries
Mr Dave McPherson	Group Director, Fisheries, Forestry and Game Licensing, Department of Primary Industries
Dr Kim Filmer	Chief Animal Welfare Officer, Department of Primary Industries

Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade – Friday 13 September 2019

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Barilaro MP	Deputy Premier, and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
Mr Jim Betts	Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Michael Pratt AM	Secretary, NSW Treasury
Mr Michael Wright	Deputy Secretary, Resources and Geoscience, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Scott Hansen	Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Chris Hanger	A/Deputy Secretary, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Gary Barnes	Coordinator General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Kylie Bell	Executive Director, Industry Trade and Investment, NSW Treasury

Mr Anthony Keon	Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator
Mr Nick Roberts	Chief Executive Officer, Forestry Corporation

Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade – Thursday 31 October 2019 (supplementary hearing)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Barilaro MP	Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
Ms Kylie Bell	Executive Director, Trade and Investment, NSW Treasury
Mr Scott Hansen	Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Gary Barnes	Coordinator General, Regions Industry Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Water, Property and Housing – Thursday 31 October 2019 (supplementary hearing)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Melinda Pavey MP	Minister for Water, Property and Housing
Mr Jim Betts	Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Dr Jim Bentley	Deputy Secretary, Water, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr James McTavish	Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Dr John Keniry AM	Natural Resources Commissioner

Agriculture and Western New South Wales – Thursday 31 October 2019 (supplementary hearing)

Name	Position and Organisation
Mr Scott Hansen	Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Peter Turnell	Group Director, Recreational and Aboriginal Fisheries, NSW Department of Primary Industries
Ms Natalie Moltschaniqskyj	A/Deputy Director General Fisheries Forestry and Game Licensing

Agriculture and Western New South Wales – Monday 2 March 2020 (further hearing)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Adam Marshall MP	Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales
Mr Michael Johnsen MP	Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture
Mr Scott Hansen	Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Gary Barnes	Co-ordinator General Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr David Witherdin	Chief Executive Officer, Local Land Services
Mr Peter Turnell	Group Director, Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries
Dr Natalie Moltschaniwskyj	A/Deputy Director, General Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries.
Ms Kate Lorimer-Ward	Deputy Director General, Agriculture, Department of Primary Industries
Ms Suze Robinson	Director, Animal Welfare, Department of Primary Industries
Dr Russell Reichelt	Chair, Marine Estate Management Authority

Water, Property and Housing – Tuesday 10 March 2020 (further hearing)

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon Melinda Pavey MP	Minister for Water, Property and Housing
Mr Jim Betts	Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Dr Jim Bentley	Chief Executive Officer and Water (Deputy Secretary), Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr David Harris	Chief Executive Officer, Water NSW
Mr Grant Barnes	Chief Regulatory Officer, National Resource Access Regulator
Mr James McTavish	NSW Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Alison Frame	Deputy Secretary, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Anne Skewes	Executive Director, Crown Lands, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Shaun Smith	Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Vanessa O'Keefe	A/Executive Director Policy, Planning & Sciences, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Roch Cheroux	Managing Director, Sydney Water
Mr Darren Cleary	A/Chief Executive Officer, Hunter Water
Mr Michael Cassel	Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Dr Neil Byron	A/Commissioner, Natural Resources Commission
Mr Bryce Wilde	Executive Director, Natural Resources Commission

**Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade – Tuesday 17 March 2020
(further hearing)**

Name	Position and Organisation
The Hon John Barilaro MP	Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
Mr Gary Barnes	Coordinator General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Scott Hansen	Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Mr Chris Hanger	Executive Director, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Kylie Bell	Executive Director, Trade and Investment, NSW Treasury
Mr Anthony Keon	Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator
Mr Nick Roberts	Chief Executive Officer, Forestry Corporation of NSW
Ms Rebecca Fox	Deputy Secretary, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Ms Margaret Prendergast	Executive Director, Disaster Recovery Office, Department of Communities and Justice
Mr Mick Willing APM	NSW State Recovery Coordinator
Mr Alex King	Executive Director, Resources Policy, Planning and Programs

Appendix 2 Minutes

Minutes no. 2

Wednesday 19 June 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Room 1043, Parliament House, Sydney at 9.32 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak (*Chair*)

Ms Hurst (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Amato

Ms Cusack

Mr Graham

Mr Khan

Mr Veitch

2. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That draft minutes no. 1 be confirmed.

3. ***

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – procedural resolutions

The committee noted the Budget Estimates timetable for 2019-2020 agreed to by the House for Portfolio Committee No. 4 hearings:

Date	Time	Portfolio
Friday 6 September 2019	9.30 am – 12.30 pm 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm	Water, Property and Housing (Pavey)
Tuesday 10 September 2019	9.30 am – 12.30 pm 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm	Agriculture and Western New South Wales (Marshall)
Friday 13 September 2019	9.30 am – 12.30 pm 2.00 pm – 5.00 pm 6.00 pm – 8.30 pm	Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade (Barilaro)

4.1 Allocation of question time

The committee noted that, under the resolution establishing the Portfolio Committees, the sequence of questions at hearings is to alternate between opposition, crossbench and government members, with equal time allocated to each, unless the committee decides otherwise.

4.2 Order for examination of portfolios

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Graham: That the portfolios of:

- Agriculture and Western New South Wales be examined concurrently,
- Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade be examined concurrently, and
- Water, Property and Housing be split, with the order and timing to be determined after the witness list has been provided by the Minister, at a future meeting.

4.3 Witness requests

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the secretariat write to the ministers named in the budget estimates resolution to request that they nominate witnesses to appear at each estimates hearing, for the

committee's consideration and that the response from the ministers be provided by Wednesday 31 July 2019.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 9.43 am, *sine die*.

Rebecca Main

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 3

Tuesday 6 August 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Members' Lounge, Parliament House, Sydney at 6.56 pm

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak (*Chair*)

Ms Hurst (*Deputy Chair*)

Mr Amato

Ms Cusack

Mr Graham

Mr Khan

Mr Veitch

2. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That draft minutes no. 2 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following correspondence:

Received:

- ***
- 23 July 2019 – Email from Mr Justin Field MLC to the Chair, requesting that he participate in the hearings for Water, Property and Housing on Friday 6 September 2019; Agriculture and Western New South Wales on Tuesday 10 September 2019; and Regional NSW, Industry and Trade on Friday 13 September 2019
- 24 July 2019 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, providing a witness list for the Budget Estimates initial hearings
- 30 July 2019 – Email from Ms Abigail Boyd MLC, advising that she would like to participate for the hearing on 13 September 2019 on Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade
- 1 August 2019 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, providing a witness list for the Budget Estimates initial hearings
- 1 August 2019 – Email from Ms Jodie Bain, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales providing a witness list for the Budget Estimates initial hearings.
- ***

Sent:

- 28 June 2019 – Letter from the secretariat to the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates initial hearings

- 28 June 2019 – Letter from the secretariat to the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates initial hearings
- 28 June 2019 – Letter from the secretariat to the Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, inviting the Minister to Budget Estimates initial hearings.
- ***

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – procedural resolutions

4.1 Allocation of question time

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Graham: That the committee take the full allocation of time for its estimates hearings on 6, 10 and 13 September 2019.

4.2 Order for examination of portfolios and witnesses

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch:

- (a) That the portfolios allocated to Minister Pavey be examined in the following order during the morning session on Friday 6 September 2019:
 - Water
 - Property
 - Housing.
- (b) That the portfolios allocated to Minister Pavey be examined in the following order during the afternoon sessions on Friday 6 September 2019:
 - Water
 - Property
 - Housing.

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that the portfolios of Agriculture and Western New South Wales and Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade be examined concurrently.

4.3 Additional witnesses

Mr Veitch requested that witnesses attending the Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing include officers who can answer questions in relation to forestry.

Mr Banasiak requested that witnesses attending the Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing and the Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing include officers who can answer questions in relation to fisheries.

Resolved, on motion of Mr Graham: That any additional witnesses be nominated by members to the secretariat by 6.30 pm, 7 August 2019.

4.4 Parliamentary secretaries

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That Mr Michael Johnsen, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, be invited to attend the hearing on Agriculture and Western New South Wales.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 7.20 pm, *sine die*.

Stephen Frappell
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 4

Friday 6 September 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members presentMr Banasiak, *Chair*Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Ms Cusack (from 10.31 am)

Ms Fachrmann (participating from 10.22 am until 11.35 am and from 3.41 pm)

Mr Field (participating until 3.25 pm)

Mr Graham

Mr Khan

Mr Martin (substituting for Ms Cusack, from 9.15 am to 10.31 am)

Ms Moriarty (participating until 11.35 am)

Mr Veitch

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hurst: That draft minutes no. 3 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 15 August 2019 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Parliamentary Liaison Officer, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, advising that invited additional witnesses Anthony Keon and Nick Roberts will attend the Budget Estimates Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing on 13 September 2019.
- 15 August 2019 – Email from Ms Kirstie Knapton, Office of Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, to the secretary, advising the Parliamentary Secretary will attend the Budget Estimates Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing on 10 September 2019.
- 15 August 2019 – Email from Ms Jodie Bain, Executive Officer, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, to the secretariat, confirming that certain invited additional witnesses are able to attend the Budget Estimates Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing on 10 September 2019 and proposing some alternative witnesses.
- 20 August 2019 – Email from Mr Nick Chapman, Strategy Advisor, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, requesting that Mr Jim Betts, Secretary Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, be included as a witness for the Budget Estimates Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing on 13 September 2019.
- 4 September 2019 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, advising that Mr Roch Cheroux, Managing Director, Sydney Water Corporation is unable to attend the Budget Estimates hearing and that Mr Kevin Jones, Interim Managing Director will attend in his place.
- 4 September 2019 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, advising that Dr John Keniry, Natural Resources Commissioner is unavailable to attend the Budget Estimates hearing.

Sent

- 12 August 2019 – Letter from the secretariat to Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, inviting the Parliamentary Secretary to the Budget Estimates Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing on 10 September 2019

- 13 August 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, confirming that the committee has not requested additional witnesses for Budget Estimates.
- 13 August 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Jodie Bain, Executive Officer, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, providing a list of additional witness requests for Budget Estimates.
- 13 August 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, providing a list of additional witness requests for Budget Estimates.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020

4.1 Government questions

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That no government questions be asked for the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing from 9.30 am to 5.00 pm, and that government questions may be asked from 6.40 pm to 7.00 pm.

4.2 Allocation of questioning

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That the opposition and crossbench be allocated 20 minutes of questioning each and any time remaining be divided between the two groups equally.

4.3 Time allocated for examination of portfolios and witnesses

Resolved on the motion of Mr Graham: That the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing be examined concurrently during the morning session.

4.4 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – Water, Property and Housing

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water Property and Housing was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Alison Frame, Group Deputy Secretary, Housing and Property
- Mr Chris Reynolds, Executive Director, Crown Lands, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Dr Jim Bentley, Deputy Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Grant Barnes, Chief Regulatory Officer, Natural Resource Access Regulator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Kevin Jones, Interim Managing Director, Sydney Water Corporation
- Mr Shaun Smith, Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr James McTavish, Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Anne Skewes, Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr David Harris, Chief Executive Officer of Water NSW.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Graham tendered the following documents:

- Report entitled 'Retail Leasing Direction – Articulating a vision for retail in The Rocks', updated 2018
- Letter from Mr Sam Romaniuk, A/Deputy Secretary, Property NSW and Ms Sarah Cleggett, A/CEO Place Management, to Mr Andrew Garcia, Manager Assessments, Independent Commission Against Corruption, providing responses to requested files, dated 6 May 2019
- Letter from Mr Christopher Drivas, Managing Director, Dockside Group and Mr Alfred Lai, Proprietor, to Mr Paul Robinson, Consultant, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, regarding Campbell's Stores – HOA and AFL Negotiations, dated 29 April 2013
- Correspondence between Mr Philip Beauchamp, Development Director, Dockside Group and Mr Phil Cortis, regarding the Campbell's Stores Stakeholders Strategy, dated 30 April 2015.

The Minister withdrew at 11.35 am.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Graham: That portfolios be examined as follows during the afternoon sessions:

- Water and Property – 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm
- Housing – 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Graham: That the committee accept the following documents tendered during the Water, Property and Housing hearing held on Friday 6 September 2019:

- Report entitled 'Retail Leasing Direction – Articulating a vision for retail in the rocks', updated 2018
- Letter from Mr Sam Romaniuk, A/Deputy Secretary, Property NSW and Ms Sarah Cleggett, A/CEO Place Management, to Mr Andrew Garcia, Manager Assessments, Independent Commission Against Corruption, providing responses to requested files, dated 6 May 2019
- Letter from Mr Christopher Drivas, Managing Director, Dockside Group and Mr Alfred Lai, Proprietor, to Mr Paul Robinson, Consultant, Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority, regarding Campbell's Stores – HOA and AFL Negotiations, dated 29 April 2013
- Correspondence between Mr Philip Beauchamp, Development Director, Dockside Group and Mr Phil Cortis, regarding the Campbell's Stores Stakeholders Strategy, dated 30 April 2015.

The public hearing continued.

Witnesses relating to the Water portfolio withdrew at 5.02 pm.

The public hearing continued.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 6.35 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

4.5 Proposed change of venue for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee hold the Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing on Friday 13 September 2019 in the Jubilee Room.

4.6 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing, until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 6.36 pm, until 9.15 am, Tuesday 10 September 2019, Jubilee Room (*Agriculture and Western New South Wales*).

Sarah Dunn/Sam Griffith

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 5

Tuesday 10 September 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.18 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*

Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Ms Cusack (from 9.25 am)

Ms Faehrmann (*participating*) (from 11.06 am to 11.33 am)

Mr Field (*participating*) (until 4.30 pm)

Mrs Houssos (*substituting for Mr Veitch from 10.02 am*) (from 10.02 am)

Ms Jackson (*substituting for Mr Veitch from 9.18 am until 10.02 am*) (until 10.02 am)

Mr Khan

Mr Mookhey (*substituting for Mr Graham*) (from 9.23 am)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following item of correspondence:

Received:

- 10 September 2019—Email from Mr Nick Savage, Chief of Staff, Office of Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, to the secretariat, advising that Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is unable to attend the Budget Estimates hearing for Agriculture and Western New South Wales as he is unwell.

3. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020**3.1 Allocation of questioning**

Resolved on the motion of Ms Hurst: That the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales be examined as follows:

- from 9.30 am to 11.30 am, with no government questions, and the opposition and cross bench allocated 20 minutes of questioning each and any time remaining divided evenly
- from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with no government questions, and the opposition and cross bench allocated 20 minutes of questioning each and any time remaining divided evenly
- 6.00 pm to 7.00 pm, with the opposition, crossbench and government allocated 20 minutes of questioning each, such that government questions take place between 6.40 pm and 7.00 pm.

3.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – Agriculture and Western New South Wales
Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales was admitted.

Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture was admitted.

The chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Gary Barnes, Coordinator General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr David Witherdin, Chief Executive Officer, Local Land Services, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Peter Turnell, Group Director, Recreational and Aboriginal Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries
- Dr Natalie Moltschanivskyj, A/Deputy Director General, Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries
- Mr Dave McPherson, Group Director, Fisheries, Forestry and Game Licensing, Department of Primary Industries
- Dr Kim Filmer, Chief Animal Welfare Officer, Department of Primary Industries.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister tendered the following document:

- Document entitled 'Western NSW – Background: Area'.

Ms Jackson left the meeting at 10.02 am.

Mr Banasiak tendered the following document:

- Document relating to the commercial fishing share trading market program.

The Minister and Parliamentary Secretary withdrew at 11.33 am.

Ms Faehrmann left the meeting at 11.33 am.

The public hearing continued.

Mr Field left the meeting at 4.30 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.00 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That, as members have no further questions for witnesses, witnesses be advised that they will not be required to attend the hearing scheduled to commence at 6.00 pm today.

3.3 Tended documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mookhey: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing held on Tuesday 10 September 2019:

- Document entitled 'Western NSW – Background: Area', tendered by Minister Marshall
- Document relating to the commercial fishing share trading market program, tendered by Mr Banasiak.

3.4 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Mookhey: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales, until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

Mr Amato, Ms Cusack, Ms Hurst and Mr Mookhey left the meeting at 5.02 pm.

4. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 6.02 pm until 9.15 am, Friday 13 September 2019, Macquarie Room (*Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade*).

Allison Stowe/Shu-fang Wei

Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 6

Friday 13 September 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*

Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Ms Boyd (*participating*) (from 10.24 am)

Mr Field (*participating*) (from 9.30 am until 10.43 am) (from 2.03 pm until 3.24 pm)

Mr Graham

Mr Khan

Mr Martin (*substituting for Ms Cusack*)

Mr Shoebridge (*participating*) (from 2.54 pm until 3.20 pm) (from 3.45 pm until 4.03 pm) (from 4.18 pm until 4.59 pm)

Mr Veitch

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020

2.1 Government questions and the allocation of questioning

Resolved on the motion of Mr Khan: That the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade be examined as follows:

- from 9.30 am to 11.30 am, with no government questions, and the opposition and cross bench allocated 20 minutes of questioning each, and any time remaining divided evenly
- from 2.00 pm to 5.00 pm, with no government questions, and the opposition and cross bench allocated 20 minutes of questioning each, and any time remaining divided evenly

- 6.00 pm to 7.00, with the opposition, crossbench and government allocated 20 minutes of questioning each, such that government questions take place between 6.40 pm and 7.00 pm.

2.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
- Mr Gary Barnes, Coordinator General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Mr Michael Wright, Deputy Secretary, Resources and Geoscience, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Chris Hanger, A/Deputy Secretary, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Kylie Bell, Executive Director, Industry Trade and Investment, NSW Treasury
- Mr Anthony Keon, Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator
- Mr Nick Roberts, Chief Executive Officer, Forestry Corporation

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade open for examination.

The Deputy Premier and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Minister withdrew at 11.30 am.

The public hearing continued

The following witness was sworn:

- Mr Michael Pratt AM, Secretary, NSW Treasury.

The committee continued to sit past 5.00 pm and the public hearing concluded at 5.29 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public and media withdrew.

2.3 Supplementary hearings

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee defer its decision on whether to hold supplementary hearings for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, until after the return of answers to supplementary questions.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 6.01 pm (*sine die*).

Helen Hong/Susan Want
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 10

Tuesday 15 October 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Room 1136, Parliament House, Sydney, at 6.30 pm

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*

Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Ms Cusack

Mr Graham

Mr Khan

Mr Veitch

2. Draft minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft minutes nos. 4, 5 and 6 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

Received:

- 26 September 2019 – Email from Mr Brad Withyman to the secretariat, alleging that an officer of the NSW Department of Primary Industries, misled the committee in his evidence to the committee during Budget Estimates, and requesting that the officer be recalled to explain his evidence
- 2 October 2019 – Letter from Mr Grant Barnes, Chief Regulatory Officer, Natural Resources Access Regulator, to the secretariat, providing clarification to his evidence from the hearing for the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing on Friday 6 September 2019
- 4 October 2019 – Correspondence from the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, providing clarification to evidence by Mr Scott Hansen, Director-General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment during the hearing on Tuesday 10 September 2019
- 9 October 2019 – Letter from the Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the Chair, providing clarification to his evidence during the hearing on Friday 13 September 2019
- 9 October 2019 – Letter from Mr Gary Barnes, Coordinator-General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, providing clarification to his evidence during the Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing on Friday 13 September 2019
- 9 October 2019 – Letter from Ms Rebecca Fox, A/Deputy Secretary Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, providing clarification to evidence by Mr Chris Hanger, A/Deputy Secretary, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment during the Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade hearing on Friday 13 September 2019.

Sent:

- 11 September 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 13 September 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Jodie Bain, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MLC, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020**4.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions**

The committee noted that the following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution appointing the committee:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, received 2 October 2019
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, received 4 October 2019
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon John Barilaro MP, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, received 9 October 2019.

4.2 Clarifications to evidence

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan:

- That the committee authorise the publication of the following correspondence:
 - Mr Grant Barnes, Chief Regulatory Officer, Natural Resources Access Regulator, dated 2 October 2019, correcting and clarifying evidence he provided to the committee on 6 September 2019
 - Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales dated 2 October 2019, correcting and clarifying evidence provided by Mr Scott Hansen, Director-General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, to the committee on 10 September 2019
 - Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, dated 9 October 2019, correcting evidence he provided to the committee on 13 September 2019
 - Mr Grant Barnes, Chief Regulatory Officer, Natural Resources Access Regulator, dated 9 October 2019, clarifying evidence he provided to the committee on 13 September 2019
 - Ms Rebecca Fox, A/Deputy Secretary Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry & Environment, dated 9 October 2019, correcting an error made by Mr Chris Hanger, A/Deputy Secretary, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment to the committee on 13 September 2019
- That the committee authorise the addition of footnotes to the evidence of Mr Grant Barnes, 6 September 2019; Mr Scott Hansen, 10 September 2019; Hon John Barilaro MP, 9 October 2019; Mr Grant Barnes, 13 September 2019; and Mr Chris Hanger, 13 September 2019 reflecting their clarification of evidence.

4.3 Transcript corrections

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the committee authorise a correction to the Hon Melinda Pavey's transcript of evidence for the Water, Property and Housing hearing on 6 September 2019 at p 29.

4.4 Supplementary hearings

Resolved on the motion of Mr Veitch: That the committee hold a supplementary hearing to consider matters relating to the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing (Pavey), Agriculture and Western New South Wales (Marshall) and Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade (Barilaro) over one day, on a date to be determined by the Chair in consultation with members.

4.5 Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 6.56 pm (*sine die*).

Jenelle Moore
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 12

Thursday 31 October 2019

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 10.17 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*

Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Mr Buttigieg (*until 10.22 am*)

Mr Graham (*from 10.22 am*)

Mr Khan

Mr Martin (*substituting for Ms Cusack*)

Mr Veitch

2. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That draft minutes no. 10 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 23 October 2019 – Email from the Office of Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, to the secretariat, advising that Mr Johnsen will attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales on 31 October 2019
- 23 October 2019 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, advising that the Deputy Premier can attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade from 10.30am to 1.10pm on 31 October 2019
- 23 October 2019 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, advising that all witnesses with the exception of Mr Nick Roberts, CEO, Forestry Corporation, are available to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and trade on 31 October 2019
- 23 October 2019 – Email from Ms Jodie Bain, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, to the secretariat, advising the Minister is unable to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales
- 23 October 2019 – Email from Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, to the secretariat, advising that Mr Johnsen is unable to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales on 31 October 2019
- 23 October 2019 – Email from Ms Jodie Bain, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, to the secretariat, advising the availability of witnesses to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales on 31 October 2019

- 23 October 2019 – Letter from the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, advising that she is unable to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Water Property and Housing on 31 October 2019
- 23 October 2019 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, advising the availability of witnesses to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing on 31 October 2019
- 23 October 2019 - Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, advising Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment is unavailable to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade on 31 October 2019
- 25 October 2019 – Letter from the Hon Natasha Maclaren-Jones MLC to the secretariat, advising that the Hon Taylor Martin MLC will substitute for the Hon Catherine Cusack MLC for the Portfolio Committee 4 Budget Estimates hearings on Thursday 31 October
- 28 October 2019 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, advising Dr John Keniry AM, Natural Resources Commissioner, is unavailable to attend the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing on 31 October 2019
- 30 October 2019 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, to the secretariat, advising that Minister Pavey will be attending the supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing on 31 October 2019.

Sent

- 22 October 2019 – Email from the secretariat to the Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, inviting him to give evidence at the Budget Estimates supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales
- 22 October 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Jodie Bain, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, requesting that a list of witnesses be invited to give evidence at a supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales
- 22 October 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, requesting that a list of witnesses be invited to give evidence at a supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing
- 22 October 2019 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, requesting that a list of witnesses be invited to give evidence at a supplementary hearing for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade.

Mr Amato joined the meeting.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020**4.1 Allocation of questioning**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That, with no government questions, the opposition and crossbench be allocated 20 minutes of questioning each round, and any time remaining be divided between the two groups equally.

5. ***

Mr Graham joined the meeting.

6. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020**6.1 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade**

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier, Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Gary Barnes, Coordinator General, Regions Industry Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Kylie Bell, Executive Director, Trade and Investment, NSW Treasury.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade open for examination.

The Deputy Premier and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the Deputy Premier and witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 12.13 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

6.2 Further hearings

The committee noted that further hearings have been scheduled for February 2020.

6.3 Allocation of questioning (Water, Property and Housing)

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Graham: That, with no government questions, the timing of questioning for today's hearing be left in the hands of the Chair.

7. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 12.16 pm, until 1.10 pm, Thursday 31 October 2019 in the Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney (Budget Estimates supplementary hearing – Water, Property and Housing).

Shu-Fang Wei
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 13

Thursday 31 October 2019
Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry
Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 1.10 pm

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, Chair
Ms Hurst, Deputy Chair
Mr Amato
Mr Graham
Mr Khan
Mr Martin (substituting for Ms Cusack)
Mr Veitch

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020

2.1 Allocation of questioning

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that, with no government questions, the timing of questioning for Water, Property and Housing hearing be left in the hands of the Chair.

2.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – Water, Property and Housing

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Dr Jim Bentley, Deputy Secretary, Water, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr James McTavish, Regional Town Water Supply Co-ordinator.

The following witness was sworn:

- Dr John Keniry, Natural Resources Commissioner.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Water, Property and Housing open for examination.

The minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the minister and witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.15 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.3 Further hearings

The committee noted that further hearings have been scheduled for February 2020.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.15 pm, until 3.25 pm, Thursday 31 October 2019 in the Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney (Budget Estimates supplementary hearing – Agriculture and Western New South Wales).

John Young
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 14

Thursday 31 October 2019
Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry
Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 3.25 pm

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*

Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*
 Mr Amato
 Mr Graham
 Mr Khan
 Mr Martin (substituting for Ms Cusack)
 Mr Veitch

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020

2.1 Allocation of questioning

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hurst: That, with no government questions, the time for questions be allocated as follows:

<i>Opposition</i>	<i>Crossbench</i>
5 x 20 min	5 x 10 min – Mr Banasiak
	2 x 10 min – Ms Hurst

2.2 Public hearing: Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – Agriculture and Western New South Wales

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Peter Turnell, Group Director, Recreational and Aboriginal Fisheries, NSW Department of Primary Industries
- Ms Natalie Moltschaniqskij, A/Deputy Director General Fisheries Forestry and Game Licensing

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales open for examination.

The witnesses were examined by the committee.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 6.00 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.3 Further hearings

The committee noted that further hearings have been schedule for February 2020.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 6.01 pm, *sine die*.

John Young/Beverly Duffy
 Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 17

Tuesday 4 February 2020

Portfolio Committee No.4 – Industry

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney at 1.01 pm

1. Members presentMr Banasiak, *Chair*Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair* (until 1.17pm)

Mr Amato (from 1.05 pm)

Ms Boyd (participating)

Mr Fang (substituting for Ms Cusack 2.56 pm- 4.23 pm)

Mr Field (substituting for Ms Hurst for the coal seam gas activities inquiry)

Mr Khan

Mr Primrose

Mr Searle (substituting for Mr Veitch for the coal seam gas activities inquiry)

Mr Veitch (until 1.17 pm)

Mrs Ward (substituting for Ms Cusack 1.00pm- 2.56 pm)

2. Previous minutes

Resolved on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft minutes nos. 12, 13, 14 and 16 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The Committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- ***

Sent:

- 5 November 2019 – Email from the Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Georgina Williams, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 5 November 2019 – Email from the Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Addison Ridge, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions
- 5 November 2019 – Email from the Budget Estimates secretariat to Ms Jodie Bain, Office of the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Searle: That the committee authorise the insertion of a footnote, as requested by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, clarifying the number of legacy wells that have required action, to:

- page 23 of Mr Michael Wright's transcript of evidence from 3 December 2019
- page 14 of NSW Government's submission
- page 98 of answers to Supplementary Questions, Question 481, Portfolio Committee No. 4 Budget Estimates 2019-2020.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – supplementary hearings**4.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions**

The committee noted that the following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution appointing the committee:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, received 26 November 2019
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, received 26 November 2019
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, received 26 November 2019.

5. **Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – procedural resolutions – further hearings**

The 2019-2020 Budget Estimates timetable for further hearings was agreed to by the House. Below is a table of Portfolio Committee No. 4 hearings:

Date	Portfolio
Monday 2 March 2020	Agriculture and Western New South Wales (Marshall)
Tuesday 10 March 2020	Water, Property and Housing (Pavey)
Tuesday 17 March 2020	Deputy Premier, Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade (Barilaro)

5.1 **Total hearing time**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That the total time allocated to each hearing be from 9.30 am until 6.30pm.

5.2 **Allocation of question time**

The committee noted that under the resolution establishing the Portfolio Committees, the sequence of questions at hearings is to alternate between opposition, crossbench and government members, with equal time allocated to each, unless the committee decides otherwise.

5.3 **Order for examination of portfolios: If portfolios are not to be considered concurrently**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing; and Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade be examined concurrently.

5.4 **Witness requests**

The committee considered the witnesses to be invited to appear at the further hearings.

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That:

- members forward proposed witnesses to the secretariat for circulation via email
- members be given 48 hours to comment on proposed witnesses to be invited to appear at further hearings.

6. **Election of Deputy Chair for duration of hearing**

The Chair called for nominations for Deputy Chair.

Mr Khan moved: That Mr Primrose be elected Deputy Chair for the duration of today's hearing.

There being no further nominations, the Chair declared Mr Primrose elected Deputy Chair for the duration of today's hearing.

7. *******

8. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 4.23 pm, until Thursday 20 February 2020, 10 am, Room 1254, (*report deliberative implementation of the Chief Scientist recommendations for Coal Seam Gas Activities*).

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 18

Monday 24 February 2020

Portfolio Committee No.4 – Industry

Room 1254, Parliament House, Sydney at 10.04 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*

Mr Amato, *Deputy Chair*

Ms Boyd (participating)

Ms Cusack

Mr Field (substituting for Ms Hurst for the coal seam gas activities inquiry)

Mr Khan

Mr Primrose

Mr Searle

2. Previous minutes

Resolved on the motion of Mr Searle: That draft minutes no.17 be confirmed.

3. ***

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – procedural resolutions – further hearings

4.1 Hearing time allocation

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the following portfolios under the same Minister be examined on the nominated hearing day from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, with the first two and a half hours reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench, and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm, with the first three hours of the afternoon session reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench and the last half an hour of each session reserved for Government questions, if desired,

- Agriculture and Western New South Wales (Marshall)
- Water, Property and Housing (Pavey)
- Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade (Barilaro)

5. ***

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 11.28 am, until Monday 2 March 2020, TBC, Parliament House (Budget Estimates - Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing).

Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 19

Monday 2 March 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Macquarie Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members presentMr Banasiak, *Chair*Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*Mr Amato (*until 10.29 am, from 11.12 am to 2.55 pm, from 3.17 pm to 3.52 pm, and from 4.15 pm*)Ms Cusack (*until 11.30 am, from 11.49 am to 2.39pm, from 3.41 pm*)Mr Khan (*until 9.59 am, from 10.29 am*)Mr Mookhey (*substituting for Mr Veitch*)

Mr Primrose

Mr Field (*participating from 2.05 pm*)**2. Previous minutes**

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft minutes no.18 be confirmed.

3. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received

- 13 February 2020 – Letter from the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, confirming the list of witnesses attending the Budget Estimates further hearing for the Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade portfolios
- 14 February 2020 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Property, Housing and Crown Lands Adviser, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, confirming the list of witnesses attending the Budget Estimates further hearing for the Water, Property and Housing portfolios
- 14 February 2020 – Email from the Office of Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, to the secretariat, confirming his attendance at the Budget Estimates further for the Agriculture and Western New South Wales portfolios
- 14 February 2020 – Email from Ms Jodie Bain, Executive Officer, Office of Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, to the secretariat, confirming the list of witnesses attending the Budget Estimates further hearing for the Agriculture and Western New South Wales portfolios
- 20 February 2020 – Email from Ms Jodie Bain, Executive Officer, Office of Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, to the secretariat, confirming attendance of Dr Russell Reichelt, Chair, Marine Estate Management Authority, at the Budget Estimates further for the Agriculture and Western New South Wales portfolios
- 24 February 2020 – Email from Ms Addison Ridge, Property, Housing and Crown Lands Adviser, Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, requesting the committee consider inviting Ms Vanessa O'Keefe, A/Executive Director Policy, Planning & Sciences as a witness to the Budget Estimates further hearing for the Water, Property and Housing portfolios

Sent

- 11 February 2020 – Email from the secretariat to Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, inviting him to attend Budget Estimates hearing into Agriculture and Western New South Wales on 2 March 2020.
- 11 February 2020 – Email from the secretariat, to the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, attaching witness invitation for the Budget Estimates further hearing into Water, Property and Housing on 10 March 2020.
- 11 February 2020 – Email from the secretariat, to the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, attaching witness invitation for the Budget Estimates further hearing into Agriculture and Western New South Wales on 2 March 2020.

- 11 February 2020 – Email from the secretariat, to the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, attaching witness invitation for the Budget Estimates further hearing into Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade on 17 March 2020.
- 20 February 2020 – Email from the secretariat, to Ms Jodie Bain, Executive Officer, Office of Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, inviting Dr Russell Reichelt, Chair of Marine Estate Management Authority, as an additional witness to the hearing on 2 March 2020.
- 24 February 2020 – Email from the secretariat, to the Office of Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, confirming Ms Vanessa O'Keefe as a witness and requesting additional witness from the Natural Resources Commission.

4. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – further hearings

4.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that portfolios of Agriculture and Western New South Wales were to be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, with the first two and a half hours reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench, and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm, with the first three hours of the afternoon session reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench and the last half an hour of each session reserved for Government questions.

4.2 Witness invitation: Deputy Premier

The committee noted that the Deputy Premier advised that he was only available for the morning session from 9.30 am to 11.30 am on Tuesday 17 March 2020. The committee did not insist on the Deputy Premier's appearance for the entire duration of the hearing.

4.3 Supplementary questions

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That further to the resolution of the House, members may lodge supplementary questions with the committee clerk by 5.00 pm within two days, except Saturday and Sunday, of the day of the receipt of the transcript of a hearing.

4.4 Public hearing: Agriculture and Western New South Wales

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, was admitted.

Mr Michael Johnsen MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Gary Barnes, Co-ordinator General Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr David Witherdin, Chief Executive Officer, Local Land Services
- Mr Peter Turnell, Group Director, Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries
- Dr Natalie Moltschaniwskyj, A/Deputy Director, General Fisheries, Department of Primary Industries.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Kate Lorimer-Ward, Deputy Director General, Agriculture, Department of Primary Industries
- Ms Suze Robinson, Director, Animal Welfare, Department of Primary Industries

- Dr Russell Reichelt, Chair, Marine Estate Management Authority.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolio of Agriculture and Western New South Wales open for examination.

The Minister, the Parliamentary Secretary and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Banasiak tendered the following document:

- Letter from the former Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Water and Trade and Industry, the Hon Niall Blair, to Mr Stuart Richey AM, Chair, Commercial Fishing Advisory Council, regarding a range of recommendations concerning the Business Adjustment Program.

The Parliamentary Secretary withdrew at 12.00 pm.

The Minister withdrew at 2.40 pm.

Mr Hansen tendered the following document:

- Task Risk Assessment for animal destruction and disposal activities in emergencies.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.01 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

4.5 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That the committee accept and publish the following documents tendered during the Agriculture and Western New South Wales hearing held on Monday 2 March 2020:

- Letter from the former Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Water and Trade and Industry, the Hon Niall Blair, to Mr Stuart Richey AM, Chair, Commercial Fishing Advisory Council, regarding a range of recommendations concerning the Business Adjustment Program, tendered by Mr Banasiak
- Task Risk Assessment for animal destruction and disposal activities in emergencies, tendered by Mr Hansen.

5. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.02 pm, until 9.15 am, Tuesday 10 March 2020, Jubilee Room, Budget Estimates hearing (*Water, Property and Housing*).

Tina Higgins/Emma Rogerson
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 20

Tuesday 10 March 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair (until 3.04 pm and from 3.24 pm)*

Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato (*until 2.05 pm, from 2.21 pm to 3.00 pm, and from 3.17 pm*)

Ms Cusack (*from 9.22 am to 11.22 am, from 2.00 pm to 3.20 pm, and from 3.40 pm*)

Mr Khan (*until 3.41 pm, and from 4.39 pm*)

Mr Primrose

Mr Veitch

Ms Faehrmann (*participating from 10.20 am to 11.15 am, and from 3.00 pm to 4.48 pm*)

Mr Field (*participating until 9.56 am, from 10.57 am to 11.28 am, and from 11.46 am*)

Mr Mookhey (*participating from 11.16 am to 11.51 am*)

2. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – further hearings

2.1 Order for examination of portfolios

The committee noted that it had previously resolved that portfolios of Water, Property and Housing were to be examined from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm, with the first two and a half hours reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench, and from 2.00 pm to 5.30 pm, with the first three hours of the afternoon session reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench and the last half an hour of each session reserved for Government questions.

2.2 Public hearing: Water, Property and Housing

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Dr Jim Bentley, Chief Executive Officer and Water (Deputy Secretary), Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr David Harris, Chief Executive Officer, Water NSW
- Mr Grant Barnes, Chief Regulatory Officer, National Resource Access Regulator
- Mr James McTavish, NSW Regional Town Water Supply Coordinator, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Alison Frame, Deputy Secretary, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Anne Skewes, Executive Director, Crown Lands, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Shaun Smith, Deputy Secretary, Corporate Services, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Vanessa O'Keefe, A/Executive Director Policy, Planning & Sciences, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Roch Cheroux, Managing Director, Sydney Water
- Mr Darren Cleary, A/Chief Executive Officer, Hunter Water
- Mr Michael Cassel, Deputy Secretary, Land and Housing Corporation, Housing and Property, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Dr Neil Byron, A/ Commissioner, Natural Resources Commission
- Mr Bryce Wilde, Executive Director, Natural Resources Commission.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Water, Property and Housing open for examination.

The Minister and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

Mr Mookhey tendered the following document:

- Email from Mr James Jooste, Senior Media Adviser, Office of Deputy Premier the Hon. John Barilaro MP, to Ms Jessica Cole, regarding the establishment of the Office of Drought Responses and the cessation of the position of State Drought Coordinator

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That:

- the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, be requested to attend the afternoon session of the Budget Estimates further hearing for Water, Property and Housing this day from 2.00 pm for an hour, and
- first half hour of questioning time reserved for cross bench members and second half hour for opposition.

The Minister withdrew at 3.00 pm.

Mr Primrose tendered the following document:

- Media release of the Hon Melina Pavey MP, entitled “NSW Government to boost social and affordable housing in regional NSW”, dated 5 July 2019.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 5.04 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

2.3 Tendered documents

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That the committee accept and publish the following document tendered during the Water, Property and Housing hearing held on Tuesday 10 March 2020:

- Email – from Mr James Jooste, Senior Media Adviser, Office of Deputy Premier the Hon. John Barilaro MP, to Ms Jessica Cole, regarding the establishment of the Office of Drought Responses and the cessation of the position of State Drought Coordinator, tendered by Mr Mookhey.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Cusack: That the committee accept and publish the following document tendered during the Water, Property and Housing hearing held on Tuesday 10 March 2020:

- Media release of the Hon Melina Pavey MP, entitled “NSW Government to boost social and affordable housing in regional NSW”, dated 5 July 2019, tendered by Mr Primrose.

3. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 5.05 pm, until 9.15 am, Tuesday 17 March 2020, Jubilee Room, Budget Estimates hearing (*Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade*).

Susan Want/Joseph Cho
Committee Clerk

Minutes no. 21

Tuesday 17 March 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Industry

Jubilee Room, Parliament House, Sydney, at 9.15 am

1. Members present

Mr Banasiak, *Chair*
Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*
Ms Cusack
Mr Khan
Mr Mallard (*substituting for Mr Amato, until 2.47 pm*)
Mr Primrose
Mr Veitch
Mr Field (*participating*)
Mr Shoebridge (*participating from 10.29 am to 10.54 am*)

2. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 26 February 2020 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Parliamentary Liaison Advisor, Office of Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional NSW, Industry and Trade, to the secretariat, advising that the Deputy Premier will be available for the morning session only for the Budget Estimates hearing on 17 March 2020
- 2 March 2020 – Email from Ms Neusa Soares, Executive Assistant, Natural Resources Commission, to the secretariat, advising that the Acting Commissioner and Mr Bryce Wilde, Executive Director would appear as witnesses at the Budget Estimates hearing on 10 March 2020
- 12 March 2020 – Email from Mr Tim Owen, Director, Ministerial Liaison Office, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, to the secretariat, advising that Mr Michael Wright requests to appear at the hearing on 17 March 2020 via teleconference.

Sent:

- 28 February 2020 – Letter from the secretariat, to Dr Neil Byron, Acting Commissioner, Natural Resources Commission, inviting him to appear at the Water, Property and Housing hearing on 10 March 2020
- 6 March 2020 – Email from the secretariat, to Ms Jodie Bain, Executive Officer, Office of the Hon Andrew Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western NSW, attaching transcript of evidence with questions on notice highlighted, supplementary questions and instructions on how to correct the transcript and return answers to questions.

3. ***

4. ***

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – further hearings**5.1 Order for examination of portfolios**

The committee noted that Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, will be an apology for the hearing.

Resolved on the motion of Mr Khan: That

- with no government questions, the portfolios of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade will be examined from 9.30 am to 12.00 pm, and from 1.00 pm to 4.00 pm, with both sessions reserved for questioning by the Opposition and cross bench
- the Deputy Premier be excused from the public hearing from 11.00 am to 11.30 am.

5.2 Public hearing: Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade

Witnesses, the public and the media were admitted.

The Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, was admitted.

The Chair made an opening statement regarding the broadcasting of proceedings and other matters. The Chair noted that members of Parliament swear an oath to their office, and therefore do not need to be sworn prior to giving evidence before a committee.

The Chair also reminded the following witnesses that they did not need to be sworn, as they had been sworn at another Budget Estimates hearing for the same committee:

- Mr Gary Barnes, Coordinator General, Regions, Industry, Agriculture and Resources, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Primary Industries, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Mr Chris Hanger, Executive Director, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Kylie Bell, Executive Director, Trade and Investment, NSW Treasury
- Mr Anthony Keon, Executive Director, NSW Resources Regulator
- Mr Nick Roberts, Chief Executive Officer, Forestry Corporation of NSW.

The following witnesses were sworn:

- Ms Rebecca Fox, Deputy Secretary, Regional NSW, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
- Ms Margaret Prendergast, Executive Director, Disaster Recovery Office, Department of Communities and Justice
- Mr Mick Willing APM, NSW State Recovery Coordinator
- Mr Alex King, Executive Director, Resources Policy, Planning and Programs.

The Chair declared the proposed expenditure for the portfolios of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade open for examination.

The Deputy Premier and departmental witnesses were examined by the committee.

The Deputy Premier was excused at 10.56 am.

The Deputy Premier returned at 11.40 am.

The Deputy Premier withdrew at 12.10 pm.

The evidence concluded and the witnesses withdrew.

The public hearing concluded at 3.18 pm.

The public and media withdrew.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 3.18 pm, *sine die*.

Rebecca Main/Rhia Victorino
Committee Clerk

Draft minutes no. 22

Thursday 14 May 2020

Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry

Via teleconference, at 10.01 am**1. Members present**Mr Banasiak, *Chair*Ms Hurst, *Deputy Chair*

Mr Amato

Mr Khan

Mr Primrose

Mr Veitch

2. Apologies

Ms Cusack

3. Previous minutes

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Khan: That draft minutes nos 19, 20 and 21 be confirmed.

4. Correspondence

The committee noted the following items of correspondence:

Received:

- 17 March 2020 – Email from Mr Mahmoud El-Hussein, Director, Office of the Secretary, Department of Planning, Industry and Environment, to the secretariat, advising that Mr Jim Betts, Secretary, will be an apology at the hearing on 17 March due to illness
- 24 March 2020 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Parliamentary Liaison Adviser, Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade to the secretariat, requesting an extension of two days to provide post-hearing responses
- 27 March 2020 – Letter from Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Department of Primary Industries to the Chair, providing clarification of his evidence at the hearing on 2 March 2020
- 3 April 2020 – Email from Ms Georgina Williams, Parliamentary Liaison Adviser, Office of the Hon. John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, requesting a further extension to provide post-hearing responses
- 8 April 2020 – Letter from Mr Bryce Wilde, Executive Director, Natural Resources Commission to the Chair, providing clarification of his evidence at the hearing on 10 March 2020.

Sent:

- 18 March 2020 – Email from the secretariat to the Office of the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, attaching transcript of evidence with questions highlighted and supplementary questions
- 23 March 2020 – Email from the secretariat to the Office of the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, attaching transcript of evidence with questions highlighted and supplementary questions
- 25 March 2020 – Email from the secretariat to Ms Neusa Soares, Executive Assistant, Natural Resources Commission, attaching transcript of evidence with questions highlighted and supplementary questions.

5. Inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-2020 – further hearings**5.1 Answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions**

The committee noted that the following answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions were published by the committee clerk under the authorisation of the resolution establishing the inquiry:

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Adam Marshall MP, Minister for Agriculture and Western New South Wales, received 27 March 2020

- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon Melinda Pavey MP, Minister for Water, Property and Housing, received 8 April 2020
- answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions from the Hon John Barilaro MP, Deputy Premier and Minister for Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade, received 27 April 2020.

5.2 Extension for the return of post-hearing responses

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Primrose: That the committee:

- grant a two week extension to the due date for the return of answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions for witnesses appearing at the hearing for the portfolios of Regional New South Wales, Industry and Trade to Monday, 27 April 2020, and
- upon their request, grant up to a two week extension for the return to answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions to any other departments who appeared before Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry for its inquiry into Budget Estimates 2019-20 further hearings.

5.3 Publication of correspondence clarifying evidence

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Veitch: That the committee publish the following correspondence clarifying evidence given during the Budget Estimates further hearings:

- correspondence from Mr Scott Hansen, Director General, Department of Primary Industries, received 27 March 2020
- correspondence from Mr Bryce Wilde, Executive Director, Natural Resources Commission, received 8 April 2020.

5.4 Consideration of Chair's draft report

The Chair submitted his draft report, entitled *Budget Estimates 2019-2020*, which, having been previously circulated, was taken as being read.

Resolved, on the motion of Ms Hurst: That

The draft report be the report of the committee and that the committee present the report to the House;

The transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry be tabled in the House with the report;

Upon tabling, all unpublished transcripts of evidence, tabled documents, answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions, and correspondence relating to the inquiry, be published by the committee, except for those documents kept confidential by resolution of the committee;

The committee secretariat correct any typographical, grammatical and formatting errors prior to tabling;

That the report be tabled on Wednesday 20 May 2020.

6. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 10.04 am, *sine die*.

Shu-fang Wei
Committee Clerk