

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO.5

MEDIA RELEASE

PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE TO VISIT DENILIQUIN AND **GRIFFITH FOR WATER INQUIRY**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 23 February 2017

An Upper House committee will be visiting Deniliquin and Griffith on 28 February and 1 March, as part of its inquiry into the augmentation of water supply for rural and regional New South Wales.

The Chair of the inquiry, the Hon Robert Brown MLC, said 'Effective water management is critical to ensuring favourable economic, social and also environmental outcomes for rural and regional NSW, particularly in areas such as the south west'.

The Chair added: 'The committee understands that individuals, community organisations and businesses in Deniliquin and Griffith have been significantly affected by water supply and storage issues, flooding and the effects of environmental flows over recent years, including 'black-water' and 'cold-water' impacts on native fish. This is why it is important for the committee to travel to this region, and to hear from those who have been directly affected'.

As part of its inquiry, the committee will be holding a public hearing in Deniliquin on 28 February 2017 and Griffith on 1 March 2017. The details of the hearings are as follows:

Deniliquin Tuesday 28 February, 9.00 am – 4.30 pm

Deniliquin RSL

72 End Street, Deniliquin

Griffith Wednesday 1 March 2017, 9.30 am - 4.00 pm

> Griffith City Council Chamber 1 Benerembah Street, Griffith

The Chair of the inquiry welcomes members of the public to observe the hearings, 'The committee would like to invite interested stakeholders including community members, businesses, irrigators and farmers to attend the public hearing to observe proceedings', he said.

The hearing schedules for 28 February and 1 March are available on the committee's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc5. The committee will report by 27 October 2017.

-ENDS-

For further information please contact the committee chair, the Hon Robert Brown MLC, on (02) 9230 2573.



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