

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO.5 – INDUSTRY AND TRANSPORT

## MEDIA RELEASE

## PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE TO VISIT ORANGE FOR **WATER INQUIRY**

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 10 May 2017

An Upper House committee will be visiting Orange on 16 and 17 May, 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 central west'.

The Chair added: 'The committee understands that individuals, community organisations and businesses in Orange have been significantly affected by severe water restrictions; long periods of little or no general security agricultural water availability and restricted high security water. 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 Orange on 17 May 2017. The details are as follows:

> Wednesday 17 May, 1.00 pm - 5.30 pmOrange Ex-Service's Club 231-243 Anson Street, Orange

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 schedule is available on the inquiry's website at www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/waterinquiry. 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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