

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SELECT COMMITTEE ON ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, DEMAND AND PRICES IN NSW

MEDIA RELEASE

NSW ELECTRICITY SUPPLY, DEMAND AND PRICES COMMITTEE TO TRAVEL THROUGHOUT THE STATE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 25 May 2018

The New South Wales Legislative Council Select Committee on Electricity Supply, Demand and Prices will be undertaking a range of site visits across NSW as part of its ongoing inquiry.

In May and June, the committee will be hosted by the operators of some of the major electricity generating technologies used in the state. This includes a coal-fired plant, a hydro power and pump station, a biomass facility, and a wind and solar farm. The schedule of visits is outlined below:

- 29 May Eraring Power Station, Origin Energy
- 30 May Gullen Range Wind and Gullen Solar Farms, BJCE and Goldwind Australia
- 31 May Tumut 3 Power Station, Snowy Hydro
- 4 June Condong biomass power station, Cape Byron Power

The Hon Paul Green MLC, Chair of the committee, said "The committee has benefited greatly from hearing from a range of energy experts in policy, industry and academia over the course of our four public hearings held to date. The committee will now have the opportunity to visit ground-zero of electricity generation in NSW.'

Mr Green continued, 'Electricity generation in NSW is in a period of transition and wind and solar is a huge part of that. On the committee's tour of the Gullen Range Wind Farm and Gullen Solar Farm, we will see firsthand how these technologies work and how they contribute to the wholesale energy market in NSW.'

Mr Green continued 'The committee will also visit several established dispatchable generation facilities, including one of the country's largest producers of electricity, Origin Energy's Eraring Power Station, and Snowy Hydro's largest power station, Tumut 3. In June, we will have the chance to tour one of Cape Byron Power's two 30 MW biomass-fired power stations.'

The next public hearing of the inquiry will be held at NSW Parliament House on Monday 18 June 2018.

More information about the inquiry, including evidence already gathered by the committee, can be found on the Parliament <u>website</u>.

-ENDS-

For further comment please contact the Hon. Paul Green MLC Committee Chair, on 9230 3484