



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO.7 – PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

REPORT TABLED - INQUIRY INTO THE ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT AMENDMENT (TERRITORIAL LIMITS) BILL 2019

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

6 March 2020

An Upper House committee inquiring into the provisions of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Territorial Limits) Bill 2019 today tabled its report. The report recommends that the bill not be passed in its current form. The report also recommends that if the bill proceed further, the Legislative Council consider amendments to the bill which reflect the majority concerns expressed during the inquiry, with the bill to make clear that for the avoidance of doubt, the bill does not prevent the consideration of scope 3 emissions.

Introduced by the NSW Government, the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Territorial Limits) Bill 2019 seeks to prohibit the imposition of consent conditions relating to impacts of development outside Australia and removes the express requirement for a consent authority to consider downstream greenhouse gas emissions when weighing up the impacts of mining projects for the purpose of granting or refusing development consent. If passed by the Parliament of New South Wales, the bill will amend the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, as well as the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007*.

The Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC, said 'despite the short timeframes for this inquiry, hearing from legal experts, environmental and community organisations as well as key industry stakeholders has added much to our understanding of this bill.'

'I am also encouraged by the response to the online submission process trial, with close to 3000 responses. An overwhelming majority of these respondents opposed the bill and noted concerns about climate change and the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions on climate change.'

In addition to these responses, the inquiry received 19 submissions from a variety of stakeholders, an indication of the strong level of interest in the bill.

The report can be accessed via the inquiry's website: <https://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/committees/inquiries/Pages/inquiry-details.aspx?pk=2567>.

-ENDS-

For further information, please contact the office of Committee Chair, Ms Cate Faehrmann MLC, on (02) 9230 3771 or 0487 247 960.