

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

STANDING COMMITTEE ON STATE DEVELOPMENT

MEDIA RELEASE

NEW INQUIRY INTO THE DEVELOPMENT OF A HYDROGEN INDUSTRY IN NSW

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An Upper House committee has commenced an inquiry into the development of a hydrogen industry in New South Wales.

The Hon Taylor Martin MLC, Chair of the State Development Committee, said: "The NSW Government recently announced the Electricity Infrastructure Roadmap, which will provide a coordinated framework to deliver a modern electricity system for NSW. The roadmap highlighted the substantial economic opportunity presented by developing a hydrogen industry in NSW, including through the production, application, storage and export of hydrogen.

"Some of Australia's largest trading partners, including Japan and South Korea, are committed to using hydrogen as a means to decarbonise their economy. New South Wales has historically been an energy exporter and we must ensure that we maximise our role in the international hydrogen economy to maintain a strong export base as the world looks for zero-emission energy sources", Mr Martin continued.

"The committee will examine a number of key issues, including the economic and employment opportunity created by the development of a hydrogen industry, particularly in regional areas; the capacity of and barriers to NSW becoming a major production, storage and export hub for hydrogen; the economics of hydrogen's use in different sectors of the economy; the infrastructure, technology, skills and workforce capabilities needed to realise the economic opportunities of hydrogen; the role of the public and private sectors in supporting the development of this industry, including management of safety risks; and the potential for jobs both directly in the hydrogen industry and in other industries powered by hydrogen."

Have your say

The committee welcomes submissions from interested stakeholders and members of the community. The closing date for submissions is **26 February 2021**.

For more information about the inquiry, including the committee membership and the terms of reference, please visit the committee's <u>website</u>.

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For further information, please contact Committee Chair, the Hon Taylor Martin MLC, on (02) 9230 2985.