



MEDIA RELEASE

Upper House committee to examine mining in the Liverpool Plains and zombie petroleum exploration licences

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

19 May 2021

An Upper House committee is examining two bills seeking to prohibit mining for coal and gas in the Liverpool Plains region and to cancel zombie petroleum exploration licences more broadly.

The Coal and Gas Legislation Amendment (Liverpool Plains Prohibition) Bill 2021 and the Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Cancellation of Zombie Petroleum Exploration Licences) Bill 2021 were introduced in the Upper House and then referred to Portfolio Committee No. 4 – Industry in May 2021.

Chair of the committee, the Hon Mark Banasiak MLC said: "The committee is holding these inquiries so we can hear from relevant stakeholders affected by these bills before the House makes a decision. The committee will have an important opportunity to hear arguments for and against the bills before reporting back to the House".

"The aim of the Liverpool Plains prohibition bill is to prohibit new mining operations in the Liverpool Plains region, while the Cancellation of Zombie Petroleum Exploration Licence bill seeks to cancel expired and unused exploration licences located both in the Liverpool Plains and in other regions," Mr Banasiak continued.

The committee welcomes all interested stakeholders to have their say on these bills via an online questionnaire. Those wishing to make a longer submission can make a written submission via the committee's online portals. Both the submission portal and online questionnaire close on Tuesday 15 June 2021.

- Coal and Gas Legislation Amendment (Liverpool Plains Prohibition) Bill 2021 [submission portal](#) and [online questionnaire](#).
- Petroleum (Onshore) Amendment (Cancellation of Zombie Petroleum Exploration Licences) Bill 2021 [submission portal](#) and [online questionnaire](#).

The committee will hold public hearings for both inquiries in July with reports to be released in August 2021. Further information about the two inquiries, including links to the bills are available on the committee's [website](#).

-ENDS-

For further information please contact Committee Chair, Hon Mark Banasiak MLC, on 9230 2573.