



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE NO. 4 – REGIONAL NSW

## MEDIA RELEASE

# UPCOMING HEARINGS FOR NSW PARLIAMENT INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES ON RURAL AND REGIONAL COMMUNITIES AND INDUSTRIES

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**12 May 2025**

The Upper House committee for regional New South Wales will hold public hearings on 13 May in Sydney, and 16 May in Dubbo, as part of its inquiry into the impact of Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) on rural and regional communities and industries in New South Wales.

The first hearing will hear from a number of NSW Government agencies involved in REZs, including independent agencies such as the Net Zero Commission, a social research expert, landowners, environmental groups, and peak organisations such as NSW Farmers, the Minerals Council and Business NSW.

The committee will then head to the Central West Orana region to host a regional hearing to hear directly from local landowners, community members, renewable energy providers and councils about the development of large-scale renewable projects in the region. As part of the visit in the region, the committee will also conduct site visits to several properties and renewable energy projects.

The Chair, Hon Mark Banasiak MLC, said, "We want to hear first-hand about the real and potential impacts of REZs and associated projects on farmers, residents and local businesses. The hearings are an opportunity to provide a complete story of what has happened and is happening on the ground."

The Chair continued: "At the same time, we will also hear from renewable energy providers and the government about how they have implemented their projects and how they are working with the community to deliver the social and economic benefits they have argued will be realised by the transition to energy."

The hearings are open to the public and will be live-streamed on the Parliament [website](#).

Further information about the inquiry, including the terms of reference, is available on the committee's [website](#).

*For further information please contact Committee Chairman, the Hon. Mark Banasiak MLC, on 9230 2573*

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