

Media Release

NSW Legislative Council

Portfolio Committee No. 4 - Regional NSW



16 February 2026

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

UPCOMING UPPER HOUSE COMMITTEE HEARING IN HAY FOR THE INQUIRY INTO THE IMPACT OF RENEWABLE ENERGY ZONES

On Wednesday 18 February 2026, the Upper House committee for regional New South Wales will hold its sixth hearing for their inquiry into the impact of renewable energy zones (REZ) on rural and regional communities and industries in New South Wales.

The public hearing will be held at the Hay Services Club, focusing on the South West REZ and its related projects. The committee will hear from local councils and local community groups about the potential impacts of renewable energy zones in the region. In addition, Transgrid will attend to give evidence about their projects as part of the South West REZ. The committee will also conduct site visits to associated renewable energy projects and developments in the region as well as local private properties.

The Chair, Mark Banasiak MLC, stated: "The committee looks forward to our visit the South West REZ. This visit is part of our ongoing commitment to rural and regional communities to examine the impact of all REZs across the state. As with our other regional visits, we are interested in understanding local concerns about the South West REZ, as well as learning more about the impacts of related renewable energy projects."

To view the Hay hearing schedule, please visit the inquiry [webpage](#).

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

-ENDS-

For further information please contact:

- 👤 Hon Mark Banasiak MLC, Committee Chair
- ☎ 02 9230 2573
- ✉ mark.banasiak@parliament.nsw.gov.au