



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 5

## **IMPACTS OF COAL SEAM GAS – TAREE HEARING**

**Committee seeks to balance environmental, social and economic objectives of mining activity**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**26 October 2011**

A Parliamentary Committee will visit Taree to investigate the environmental, economic and social impacts of coal seam gas mining in NSW, following widespread concerns from landholders, farmers and environmentalists worried about the effects of this rapidly growing industry.

“The Committee has received close to 1,000 written submissions from all over NSW. We have heard from many residents in Taree and surrounding areas, in particular landholders at Gloucester, who are potentially affected by plans for coal seam gas development”, explains the Chair of the Committee, the Hon. Robert Brown MLC.

“Given the level of public interest in the area, I am pleased to announce that the Committee will hold a public hearing at Taree, so that local residents can have their say on this important issue.”

The hearing details are as follows:

Date:	31 October 2011
Time:	11.30 am – 5.45 pm
Venue:	Club Taree, 121 Wingham Road, Taree.

The list of witnesses is available on the Committee’s website. The hearing is open to the public and interested persons are encouraged to attend as audience members.

The Committee is holding two more public hearings in regional areas, namely Narrabri and Bowral. Three public hearings will be held at Parliament House in Sydney.

For more information, including to access written submissions, please visit the Committee’s website – [www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc5](http://www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc5).

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*For media comment contact Committee Chair, Hon Robert Brown MLC – 0429 303 250*

*For information on hearing arrangements contact Committee staff – 9230 3586 or 0400 334 620*