



LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 5

IMPACTS OF COAL SEAM GAS – NORTH COAST HEARING

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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

15th September 2011

A Parliamentary Committee will visit the North Coast 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 hundreds of written submissions from all over NSW. We have heard from a number of North Coast residents, in particular landholders from around Casino and Kyogle, 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 from the area, I am pleased to announce that the Committee will hold a public hearing at Alstonville, so that North Coast residents can have their say on this important issue.”

The hearing details are as follows:

Date: 21 September 2011

Time: 1.30-6.30 pm

Venue: The House With No Steps, 253 Wardell Road, Alstonville.

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. There is no need to RSVP but as seats are limited, attendees are encouraged to arrive early to secure a seat in the main hall.

The Committee is holding three more public hearings in regional areas: Taree, Narrabri and Bowral. Two 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.

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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