

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

GENERAL PURPOSE STANDING COMMITTEE NO. 5

## MEDIA RELEASE

## INQUIRY INTO THE AUGMENTATION OF WATER SUPPLY FOR RURAL AND REGIONAL NEW SOUTH WALES

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE 23 March 2016

An Upper House inquiry has been established to inquire into water augmentation in rural and regional New South Wales.

General Purpose Standing Committee No. 5 will examine the suitability of existing water storages, flood risks and technologies available to mitigate flood damage. The committee will also consider the social, economic and environmental aspects of water management practices in New South Wales and in other jurisdictions in Australia and internationally.

Committee Chair, the Hon Robert Brown MLC, said "This inquiry will examine the mechanisms and protocols to manage existing water storages and to ensure their sustainability into the future."

The Committee will have particular regard to water management practices in the Menindee Lakes district, South Western New South Wales and North Western New South Wales.

"Water augmentation is critical to ensuring the future economic, social and environmental viability of rural and regional areas of New South Wales. This committee will undertake a comprehensive inquiry over the next 18 months and encourages participation from all stakeholders and community members," Mr Brown said.

The closing date for submissions is 19 June 2016.

For further information about the inquiry, including its terms of reference, or for more information on how to make a submission, please go to our website: www.parliament.nsw.gov.au/gpsc5 or call the committee secretariat on (02) 9230 3586.

For further information please contact the committee chair, the Hon Robert Brown MLC, on (02) 9230 3059