

**Submission
No 9**

**INQUIRY INTO CLIMATE CHANGE (NET ZERO
FUTURE) BILL 2023**

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Legislating climate targets and establishing a commission are excellent steps forward. Showing support for climate action means we are supporting communities under threat from extreme weather events like floods, fires and droughts.

However, the Bill doesn't do anything to address the 13 coal mine expansions proposed in NSW. If these are approved they would emit more than 2 billion tonnes of lifecycle greenhouse gas emissions. That's equivalent to 14 years of annual NSW emissions.

Of these coal projects one of those proposed is the biggest coal expansion in NSW since the Paris Agreement came into effect in 2016. This is the Hunter Valley Operations coal expansion near Singleton.

The Bill should also be accompanied by accelerated action to support coal-affected communities to diversify their economies and create new jobs that are not reliant on fossil fuels, including the creation of statutory authorities to facilitate skills training and new industries.