INQUIRY INTO CLIMATE CHANGE (NET ZERO FUTURE) BILL 2023

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Targets should be strengthened: in particular, the current NSW target of 70% emissions reduction by 2035 should be in the Bill. There should be a mechanism provided to set additional interim targets, like the 5-yearly targets in Victoria.

The Bill should require the NSW Government to set methane targets for each sector, and require the Commission to provide advice on those targets, to help avoid climate tipping points.

The bill should require that climate impacts are considered in all government policy and decisions.

The bill should create regional statutory authorities to facilitate economic diversification, to be implemented rapidly and adequately resourced. They should have real community participation.

The Commission must provide advice on all new high emission developments, such as coal and gas mines. There should be no new fossil fuel projects considered until the commission is established.

Along with this legislation, NSW must urgently stop new coal and gas mining. The old 'Strategic Statement on Coal' should be rescinded and the promised roadmap to gas decarbonisation initiated at once.