

**INQUIRY INTO 2024 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NET
ZERO COMMISSION**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

NSW is not on track to meet its net zero emissions. The report of the NSW Net Zero Commission admits this in its 2024 Annual Report.

This report confirms the need for action. It states: In 2023-2024, the average temperature in NSW was the fourth highest recorded in more than a century. That's a 1.6°C increase above the historical average.

NSW must confront climate change through decisive action to transition to a net zero emissions economy and adapt to a changing climate.

Meeting the 2030, 2035 and 2050 emissions targets is not guaranteed. NSW will need to increase and accelerate its efforts to remain on track.

I recommend the following actions by the NSW Government:

1. The government should request a specific, dedicated report from the NZC on the risks that coal and gas expansions pose to NSW climate targets, to be completed by June 2025.
2. The government request that the report include advice on a coal sectoral target to drive emissions reduction in the coal sector.
3. In the meantime, approvals of new coal expansions should be paused until such advice has been provided by the NZC.
4. The Net Zero Commission should be asked to provide specific advice and make recommendations on all proposed major coal mine expansions in NSW, as per s15 (3) of the NSW Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023 .
5. A Regulation should be created under the Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023 to place a duty on key planning decision-makers to meet the 2030 and 2035 climate change targets and restrict downstream emissions.

We have no more time to lose.