

**Submission
No 50**

INQUIRY INTO 2024 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NET ZERO COMMISSION

Name: Mr Stephen Spencer

Date Received: 13 February 2025

I am extremely concerned with the first report of the NSW Net Zero Commission (NZC).

This report shockingly shows that NSW is not on track to meet any legislated emissions reduction targets, in part because of the “sizeable pipeline” of more than 17 coal mine extensions and applications in the state.

The NSW 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.

The report should include advice on a coal sectoral target to drive emissions reduction in the coal sector.

In the meantime, approvals of new coal expansions should be paused until such advice has been provided by the NZC.

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 .

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.

I call on the NSW Government to take serious action on this matter.