

2025 consultation

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2025 consultation questions

1. What can you tell us about your experience of the impacts of climate change and how can the commission seek to reflect and respond to this in its work?

1. Coal mine expansions are undermining NSW climate targets.

NSW is not on track to meet any of the legislated targets (incl. 2030 and 2035 GHG targets)

The current regulatory system is not working to prevent major greenhouse gas emissions from coal mine expansions.

Coal companies are applying for projects that do not even commence until after 2030, but the NSW Government is progressing them through the planning system regardless, letting companies , approvals.

The Safeguard Mechanism cannot be relied upon to drive emissions reductions from coal projects in NSW required to meet 2030 and 2035 targets.*

2. Fugitive coal mine methane emissions are under-reported and underestimated.

Methane is 84-87x more potent than CO₂ over 20 years and coal mine fugitive emissions are likely under estimated by at least half, but this isn't accounted for in company estimates of their scope 1 emissions - and must be.

The Common Capital report (see above) found that methane emissions from coal are predicted to rise by 75% by 2035 in NSW, despite the International Energy Agency saying they must reduce by 75% by 2030 if the world is to avoid climate chaos.⁴

3. Downstream emissions aren't properly counted.

The 19 proposed coal projects in NSW could generate ~1.7 billion tonnes of lifecycle emissions - over 15 times NSW's annual emissions. Despite this massive impact, these emissions are not being properly considered in planning decisions. They must be given full weight under the Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023 to ensure decisions align with NSW's climate goals.

4. Communities need resources and power to respond and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

Invest deeply and long-term in community-centred, genuinely co-designed resilience planning, in climate-ready health, housing and disaster support services.

5. Coal communities need a fair transition

The Royalties for Rejuvenation fund should be spent on the transition now - it's already underway. Don't bank it until 2028.

	<p>Transition authorities must be independent, well-funded and community-led.</p> <p>What to Ask the NZC To Do</p> <p>Publish a report on how coal expansions threaten climate targets and policy changes needed to address it.</p> <p>Set strong coal sectoral targets for 2030 and 2035 and mandate methane abatement requirements to reduce emissions from existing coal mines.</p> <p>Provide advice to the IPC on Moolarben and Hunter Valley Operations coal mine expansions to set a standard for greenhouse gas assessment that reflects the NZCs view on the risks posed by coal projects to NSW.</p>
2. What actions can the commission take to engage across the community to help drive the shifts needed for the net zero transition and for effective climate change mitigation and adaptation?	<p>Stop expanding mining for fossil fuels including gas.</p> <p>Stop logging native forests and plantations with high numbers of endangered species.</p> <p>Stop exporting coal and gas to big emitting countries.</p> <p>Protect all country not just state parks from logging</p>
3. How should the commission best engage with First Nations people to learn about cultural knowledge and practices to support adaptation, and what information and evidence should it draw on to inform its understanding of these practices?	<p>Meet with indigenous peoples in all areas at risk</p>
4. What additional mechanisms, support, or incentives can meaningfully empower and enhance First Nations people's involvement in climate mitigation, adaptation and environmental stewardship?	<p>Employ them in land management and parks, both state and national.</p>
5. What additional information and evidence should the commission consider when assessing progress towards NSW's targets for reducing net	<p>Look at the governments neglect in implementing promises to protect forests, initiate the formation of the Koala National Park.</p> <p>Listen to environmental groups and communities on the frontline trying to defend the environment.</p> <p>Take notice of IPCC reports.</p>

greenhouse gas emissions?	
6. The speed of deployment of electricity generation and infrastructure is a key risk to emissions reduction targets. What more could be done to fast-track deployment?	<p>Stop investing in fossil fuel subsidies.</p> <p>Incentivise research and implementation of renewable energy</p> <p>Improve transmission lines</p> <p>Educate the public</p> <p>prevent government receiving big political donations from mining corporations</p>
7. Are the measures now in place sufficient to ensure community engagement and benefit sharing from the build out of infrastructure for the energy transition?	<p>no.</p> <p>Many are still not educated about climate change and destructive pollution from coal and gas. Run a big public education campaign</p>
8. Are First Nations communities adequately engaged and included in sharing the benefits of the transition? What more could be done, and by whom?	no
9. What are likely to prove the most effective approaches to accelerate rapid decarbonisation across freight and passenger transport?	<p>Stop building more roads and feeding more and more big trucks onto roads</p> <p>invest in rail!!</p>
10. What specific actions or policies could increase uptake of emissions reduction strategies in agriculture, both in the short and long term?	<p>Regeneration</p> <p>Educate farmers about soil and reforestation benefits</p> <p>Incentivise research and implementation of better farming practices</p>
11. Given the uncertainties in land-sector net emissions, how should NSW incorporate this sector into the states climate policy and emissions profile?	<p>Stop logging</p> <p>Educate about regenerative farming</p> <p>make planting of trees for wildlife corridors compulsory</p> <p>make riparian zones planting compulsory</p>
12. What specific actions could increase carbon storage and resilience of the existing carbon stock in the land sector and	

meaningfully enhance the application of First Nations people's knowledge and practices?	
13. What policies or programs at a sectoral level could complement the Safeguard Mechanism to support the accelerated decarbonisation of heavy industry in NSW?	Improve rail transport stop building more and more roads
14. What measures could accelerate industrial heat electrification in NSW, where technology is viable?	
15. What short to medium term measures could be prioritised to address the systemic challenges regarding waste generation and resource recovery?	Massively improve recycling and non polluting industries such as packaging
16. How could transparency of how coal mines meet their Safeguard Mechanism obligations be improved?	Have an independent regulating body accountable to the public
17. What measures would lead to coal mines prioritising on-site abatement over offsetting?	
18. What measures should be considered beyond the Safeguard Mechanism to reduce emissions of the resources sector, particularly methane emissions, to meet NSW's emissions reduction targets?	stop expansion of gas industry
19. What additional measures could accelerate electrification and increase energy	community solar programs

efficiency of new and existing buildings?	
20. How could social equity be better addressed in the transition to an electrified built environment?	compulsory installation of renewables on rental properties. retrofitting of all public housing
21. What approaches could NSW consider to eliminate refrigerants with a GWP >10 from buildings?	
22. What should be included in an emissions monitoring framework for NSW in the context of the transition to net zero, including any specific metrics and indicators?	
23. The adaptation objective is for NSW to be more resilient to a changing climate. The Act allows for regulations to further define the adaptation objective. What does a more resilient NSW look like to you?	Large National Parks with no further logging. No development on land at risk of flooding Sensible town planning which prevents suburb expansion with no provision for trees and no regard for agricultural and environmentally protected areas Stop high density land subdivision
24. What additional information and evidence should the commission consider when assessing progress towards the adaptation objective?	Consult with environmental groups and communities concerned about environment degradation which is occurring. Stop overdevelopment. Put population limits in place
25. How can adaptation planning better use the NSW Government's climate change projections (NARClIM)?	
26. What other information or tools are needed to support decision-makers in NSW?	Educate Stop corruption and big business interference including big political donations from mining sector
27. What initiatives should the commission consider in assessing NSW's preparation and	Get cracking Protect wild rivers and forests protect water supplies

responses to extreme heat and humidity events in NSW?	<p>Grow shade trees in all towns</p> <p>Provide seating in shade ares and water dispensers in public places.</p> <p>Deal with the issue rather than prevaricate</p>
Are there any other pieces of evidence or feedback you would like to add?	<p>The government must be held accountable immediately for failing to protect environments and not delivering on promises to create National Parks and end logging.</p>