

2025 consultation

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2025 consultation questions

<p>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?</p>	<p>As a person living in Western Sydney, climate change has impacted in several ways. Firstly, Western Sydney faces temperatures up to 10 degrees hotter than in the Sydney CBD on the same day, and because Western Sydney has a lower average income as well as one of the most ethnically diverse regions, climate change is thus disproportionately impacting lower socio-economic groups and minority groups. A lower average income makes it harder to adapt to an increased frequency of natural disasters, including heatwaves, bushfires and flooding with Western Sydney is even more susceptible to. Not only does this have physical impacts, but psychological impacts at the thought of constantly having to brace for and respond to natural disasters more frequently.</p>
<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>	<p>The most important action to my mind is helping in any way with transitioning energy production away from fossil fuels and towards renewable energy sources. Australia has an incredible advantage over other countries in having access to solar and wind power, as well as the opportunity to transition a strong mining sector to renewables. In addition to this action, investing more money into climate adaptive infrastructure such as building less with concrete (to escape the Urban Heat Island effect which is especially prominent in Western Sydney), and to ensure that any climate adaptive technology/infrastructure is evenly rolled out across regions, rather than only being centred to wealthier suburbs.</p>
<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>	<p>Working from a participatory development framework. This involves listening first and foremost, without leading questions at first, and only suggesting if questions are prompted by members of these communities. This will help to build trust, as well as usually being more effective because each community has different needs and issues - a one-size fits all approach rarely seems to work historically.</p>
<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>	
<p>5. What additional information and evidence</p>	<p>Taking accounts from climate activists, such as the Australian Youth Climate Coalition, and giving more a platform/making it</p>

should the commission consider when assessing progress towards NSW's targets for reducing net greenhouse gas emissions?	easier to know how to advise political changes. Additionally, greater advertising/outreach for feedback from consultation like this consultation here.
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?	
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?	
8. Are First Nations communities adequately engaged and included in sharing the benefits of the transition? What more could be done, and by whom?	
9. What are likely to prove the most effective approaches to accelerate rapid decarbonisation across freight and passenger transport?	<p>Subsidising and investing in electric cars with renewable energy sources. The major barrier seems to be how expensive these cars were - if I could buy them easily, I definitely would, but as someone from a low socio-economic background, this is not feasible. Additionally, building more expansive cycleways within and without the Sydney CBD, providing fairer wages to public transport workers to avoid RTBU disruption, and increasing bus services possibly with an opt-in service. Possibly, if everyone was able to submit requests for a bus service and for specific times, then the data could be collated as to where the most busy areas are and how frequently to service those routes.</p> <p>Specifically, as someone who lives between a sharehouse in Wollongong for university, and southwest Sydney for family, I notice the difference very much in public transport use - Wollongong is quite inconvenient to get around, with fewer people using the routes. However, the free shuttle in Wollongong CBD is incredibly popular; expanding free shuttles for the Sydney CBD might incentivise using private transport less.</p>
10. What specific actions or policies could increase uptake of emissions reduction strategies in agriculture,	Capitalising on the transition to horticulture away from meat industries. Meat industries both use resources in terms of horticulture (for feeding) and release emissions of methane, a fossil fuel. Transitioning to horticulture industries and possibly lab-grown meat, could save an extreme amount of emissions,

both in the short and long term?	especially with an increasing popularity in veganism and vegetarianism/meatless Mondays. I know a few friends who would eat less meat if it were feasible, and investing in meatless industries would help to subsidise the costs and make this more possible.
11. Given the uncertainties in land-sector net emissions, how should NSW incorporate this sector into the states climate policy and emissions profile?	
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?	
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?	Expanding FOGO bins across various LGAs. Currently, the Wollongong LGA uses FOGO bins, but many other LGAs do not. Implementing healthy disposal practices like using FOGO bins early on, will likely save a lot of unnecessary waste going to landfill. Also, greater emphasis/teaching in schools of which materials go in which bin would go a long way to increasing the amount of waste which can be recycled.
16. How could transparency of how coal mines meet their Safeguard Mechanism obligations be improved?	Mandating that coal mines report their SM obligations frequently to a publicly, easily accessible website.

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?	Transitioning to meatless industries; farmers being subsidised to transition for this.
19. What additional measures could accelerate electrification and increase energy efficiency of new and existing buildings?	
20. How could social equity be better addressed in the transition to an electrified built environment?	
21. What approaches could NSW consider to eliminate refrigerants with a GWP >10 from buildings?	Campaigning about the importance of eliminating these refrigerants, and increasing literacy on recognising when refrigerants have a GWP>10 to do this.
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?	Fairer distribution of climate-resilient infrastructure and infrastructure that protect from natural disasters. Ensuring regions that are hit hardest receive the necessary infrastructure to adapt.

24. What additional information and evidence should the commission consider when assessing progress towards the adaptation objective?	
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?	
27. What initiatives should the commission consider in assessing NSW's preparation and responses to extreme heat and humidity events in NSW?	
Are there any other pieces of evidence or feedback you would like to add?	Being able to express thoughts about this is very appreciated and important, especially for young people who feel we are not listened to. Further advisory boards and committees of young people are needed, since these groups will be the ones having to deal with the negative short-term, medium-term AND long-term impacts of climate change.