



*Zali Steggall MP*

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WARRINGAH

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**Submission to the Independent Planning Commission on the  
Narrabri Gas Project**

I thank the Independent Planning Commission (the Commission) for the opportunity to present evidence that may inform the decision on the Narrabri Gas Project (the Project).

The Project ramifications are not limited to the immediate surrounding area but extend far beyond to communities around Australia who want to see Governments taking their climate commitments seriously. Warringah is one of many such communities.

A 2019, 5000-person survey of constituents in Warringah returned results showing climate change and the environment as the top issue of concern amongst the community. With 74% of respondents claiming climate change as the top issue and 54% for environment respectively. On their behalf, I therefore write to object to this project.

The Project will risk locking in carbon emissions that will have consequences for Australia's commitment to the Paris Agreement and New South Wales Government's commitment to net zero emissions by 2050. The Project's 120-128 million tonnes of lifecycle greenhouse gases will contribute 3.8% per annum to the State's emissions. Or taken a different way, is equivalent to one full year of the total of the State's emissions. For this reason alone, it should not proceed.

Further, since elected, I have engaged with think tanks, environmental groups, and constituents on the Project. The feedback has been overwhelmingly negative and most have asked for the Project to be rejected. In summary, there have been concerns raised about:

- The independence of the economic assessment done by Mr. Brian Fisher for the Department
- The potential local employment figures generated by the Project claimed by the proponent
- Claims made about the Projects effect on gas prices
- The prospect of the Project significantly contributing to State revenues
- Claims that the Project is essential to powering gas-fired generation that supplements variable renewable energy in the energy transition
- The risk of the Project impacting on the ability to limiting global warming to a safe level; and
- The potential impacts on groundwater and aquifers

I ask that the Commission consider these concerns and decline to grant approval to the project.

Kind regards,



**Zali Steggall OAM MP**  
**Member for Warringah**