



Anthony Roberts MP

Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing, Special Minister of State

IRF18/7057

David Blunt
Clerk of the Parliaments
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Blunt,

I am writing in response to the recommendations made by the Regulation Committee of the Legislative Council (the Committee) following its inquiry into the making of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Snowy 2.0 and Transmission Project) Order 2018*.

On 29 June 2018, the Committee published its final report on the inquiry. The report included two recommendations both directed to the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department).

The first recommendation said that it should be standard practice for the Department to notify relevant Councils and State MPs when an order is made to declare a project Critical State Significant Infrastructure (CSSI) under the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*.

The Department has already acted on this recommendation. Four projects have been declared to be CSSI since the Snowy 2.0 Project and the Department has notified, or is in the process of notifying, the relevant Councils and State MPs of the declarations.

The second recommendation said the Department should conduct consultation with key stakeholders for each stage of the Snowy 2.0 Project. This has also occurred. The Department has conducted extensive consultation with key stakeholders on the first application, which is seeking approval for exploratory works, and will continue to consult these stakeholders during the assessment of the remaining applications.

I hope this provides sufficient information to demonstrate that the Department has acted swiftly to address the Committee's recommendations.

Yours sincerely,

Anthony Roberts MP
Minister for Planning
Minister for Housing
Special Minister of State

Received by me on behalf of the
Clerk of the Parliaments at 3.45pm
on Friday, 11 January, 2019, and
authorised to be printed
B. Duffy