

**Submission
No 10**

**THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PORTFOLIO COMMITTEE No. 2
RECOMMENDATIONS RELATING TO CROSS-JURISDICTIONAL HEALTH
REFORM AND GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION WITH REMOTE, RURAL AND
REGIONAL COMMUNITIES**

Name: Ms Amanda Whiles

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The Federal and State governments need to urgently address the situation for rural GPs. The current situation is untenable. We have to wait 4 weeks to get a doctors appointment and the doctors are all stressed because there are too many patients to manage. Our surgery has just closed its books to new patients meaning any new resident to Mudgee cannot see a local doctor. This is outrageous and has come about because there is no doctor in Gulgong. This needs to be urgently addressed. No one in the city would tolerate a 4 week wait. Why should we? I heard the Dept of Health opinion on there being no doctor at Gulgong was fine because " Mudgee is only twenty minutes away". Now no one in Mudgee can get an appointment in their own town in their own medical Centre with their own doctor. It has to be fixed. You need to have more training places for doctors in the system and get more out there. It's as simple as that. There are also doctors from other countries not working as doctors . It needs to be made simpler and cheaper to recognize and transfer skills and qualifications. What's going to happen when these thousands of workers for the renewable energy zone show up here and there are no doctors for them, the state and federal governments have totally failed the people on this issue. The new people when they get sick are just going to front up to the hospital which was built too small, and is already under resourced and under staffed. You honestly could not make up how incompetent the planning around health supports and doctors in the Mid Western Region area is. It's a disgrace.