

Minutes no. 1

Friday 2 August 2024

Joint Standing Committee on Net Zero Future

Room 1136, Parliament House, Sydney, 12.02 pm

1. Members present

Mr Buckingham, *Chair*

Mr Buttigieg

Mr Fang (via videoconference)

Mr Griffin (via videoconference)

Ms Higginson

Ms Munro

Mr Murphy

Ms Suvaal (via videoconference)

Ms Tesch

2. Apologies

Ms Doyle

3. Tabling of resolution establishing the committee

The Clerk tabled the resolution of the House establishing the committee, which reads as follows:

1. That a joint standing committee be established to inquire into and report on Net Zero Future, in particular:
 - a. to monitor and review the exercise of the Net Zero Commission's functions under the *Climate Change (Net Zero Future) Act 2023*,
 - b. to examine each annual report, and other reports of the Net Zero Commission as the Committee sees fit and to report to both Houses of Parliament on any matter appearing in or arising out of, any such report,
 - c. to inquire into any question in connection with the Committee's functions which is referred to it by both Houses of Parliament and to report to both Houses on that question, and
 - d. any other related matters.
2. That, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the standing orders of either House, the committee consist of 12 members comprising:
 - a. five members of the Legislative Assembly, and
 - b. seven members of the Legislative Council, of whom
 - i. three are government members, being Mr Cameron Murphy, Ms Emily Suvaal and Mr Mark Buttigieg,
 - ii. four are non-government members, being Mr Wes Fang, Ms Jacqui Munro, Ms Susan Higginson and Mr Jeremy Buckingham.
3. That the Chair of the committee be Mr Jeremy Buckingham and that the Deputy Chair be appointed by the Legislative Assembly.

4. That, notwithstanding anything in the standing orders of either House, at any meeting of the committee, any seven members of the committee will constitute a quorum, provided that at least one member of each House is present at all times.
5. The committee have leave to make visits of inspection within New South Wales and elsewhere in Australia.
6. That, unless the committee decides otherwise:
 - a. all inquiries are to be advertised via social media, stakeholder emails and a media release distributed to all media outlets in New South Wales, Resolution – Joint Standing Committee on Net Zero Future
 - b. submissions to inquiries are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration,
 - c. attachments to submissions are to remain confidential,
 - d. the Chair’s proposed witness list is to be circulated to provide members with an opportunity to amend the list, with the witness list agreed to by email, unless a member requests the Chair to convene a meeting to resolve any disagreement,
 - e. the sequence of questions to be asked at hearings alternate between opposition, crossbench and Government members, in that order, with equal time allocated to each,
 - f. transcripts of evidence taken at public hearings are to be published,
 - g. supplementary questions are to be lodged with the Committee Clerk within two business days following the receipt of the hearing transcript, with witnesses requested to return answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions within 21 calendar days of the date on which questions are forwarded to the witness,
 - h. answers to questions on notice and supplementary questions are to be published, subject to the Committee Clerk checking for confidentiality and adverse mention and, where those issues arise, bringing them to the attention of the committee for consideration, and
 - i. media statements on behalf of the committee are to be made only by the Chair.
7. That a message be sent acquainting the Legislative Assembly with the resolution and requesting the Legislative Assembly appoint five of its members to serve on the committee including appointing a Deputy Chair.

4. **Conduct of committee proceedings**

The committee noted the Broadcast of Proceedings resolution (as amended by the Legislative Council on 19 October 2022), in particular the provisions relating to the filming, broadcasting, rebroadcasting and photography of committee proceedings, including:

- (4) That unless resolved otherwise by a committee, this House authorises:
 - (a) the filming, broadcasting and photography of members and witnesses in committee proceedings:
 - (i) by representatives of media organisations, including from around the committee meeting table,
 - (ii) by any member of the public, from the position of the audience, and

(b) the rebroadcasting of committee proceedings on the Legislative Council and Parliament's social media channels.

5. Publication of minutes of first meeting

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Murphy: That the committee publish the minutes of the first meeting on the committee's webpage, subject to the draft minutes being circulated to members.

6. Net Zero Commission

Resolved, on the motion of Mr Buttigieg: That the committee meet with Dr Paul Grimes PSM, Chair of the Net Zero Commission, and any other commissioners that would like to attend, for an informal briefing, on a date to be fixed by email.

7. Adjournment

The committee adjourned at 12.10 pm, *sine die*.

Talina Drabsch
Committee Clerk