

Passed by both Houses



New South Wales

Regional Communities (Consultation Standards) Bill 2024

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I certify that this public bill, which originated in the Legislative Assembly, has finally passed the Legislative Council and the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales.

*Clerk of the Legislative Assembly.
Legislative Assembly,
Sydney,*

, 2024



New South Wales

Regional Communities (Consultation Standards) Bill 2024

Act No _____, 2024

An Act to provide that consultation of regional communities by government bodies and agencies be carried out in a proper and effective manner.

I have examined this bill and find it to correspond in all respects with the bill as finally passed by both Houses.

Assistant Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

The Legislature of New South Wales enacts—

1 Name of Act

This Act is the *Regional Communities (Consultation Standards) Act 2024*.

2 Commencement

This Act commences on a day or days to be appointed by proclamation.

3 Definition

In this Act—

regional community means a community outside the Greater Sydney Region.

Note— The *Interpretation Act 1987* contains definitions and other provisions that affect the interpretation and application of this Act.

4 Consultation with regional communities to comply with standards

- (1) A consultation with a regional community must be carried out having regard to the consultation guide if the consultation is—
 - (a) primarily directed to, or primarily impacts on, the health, cultural, environmental, economic, educational or other well-being of persons in the regional community, and
 - (b) to be carried out by or for the State, a NSW Government agency or a statutory body representing the Crown.
- (2) This section does not apply to—
 - (a) a consultation required by or under another Act to be carried out in a specified way, or
 - (b) a consultation in relation to the exercise of a function that is not subject to the direction or control of a Minister.
- (3) A failure to comply with this section does not affect the validity of a consultation.
- (4) In this section—

consultation guide means a Consultation with Regional Communities Guide issued from time to time by the Premier and published in the Gazette.