



New South Wales

Regional Communities (Consultation Standards) Bill 2024

Explanatory note

This explanatory note relates to this Bill as introduced into Parliament.

Overview of Bill

The object of this Bill is to provide that the consultation of regional communities by government bodies and agencies must be carried out in a proper and effective manner.

Outline of provisions

Clause 1 sets out the name, also called the short title, of the proposed Act.

Clause 2 provides for the commencement of the proposed Act on the date of assent to the proposed Act.

Clause 3 defines the term *regional community* to mean a community outside the Greater Sydney Region.

Clause 4 gives effect to the object of the proposed Act. The proposed section provides that consultation with a regional community by or on behalf of the State, a NSW Government agency or a statutory body representing the Crown must be carried out in accordance with the prescribed standard. The proposed section does not apply to consultation required by an Act to be carried out in a specified way. A failure to comply with this section does not affect the validity of a consultation. The *prescribed standard* to be followed is—

- (a) until the regulations under the proposed Act otherwise provide—the *Quality Assurance Standard For Community and Stakeholder Engagement* published by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2 Federation) in May 2015, with all necessary changes, or
- (b) a standard prescribed by the regulations under the proposed Act.

Clause 5 enables the Governor to make regulations for the proposed Act.



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This PUBLIC BILL, originated in the LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY and, having this day passed, is now ready for presentation to the LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL for its concurrence.

Legislative Assembly

Clerk of the Legislative Assembly



New South Wales

Regional Communities (Consultation Standards) Bill 2024

No. _____, 2024

A Bill for

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

The LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL has this day agreed to this Bill with/without amendment.

Legislative Council

Clerk of the Parliaments

| | |
|--|----------------------|
| The Legislature of New South Wales enacts— | 1 |
| 1 Name of Act | 2 |
| This Act is the <i>Regional Communities (Consultation Standards) Act 2024</i> . | 3 |
| 2 Commencement | 4 |
| This Act commences on the date of assent to this Act. | 5 |
| 3 Definition | 6 |
| In this Act— | 7 |
| regional community means a community outside the Greater Sydney Region. | 8 |
| Note— The <i>Interpretation Act 1987</i> contains definitions and other provisions that affect the interpretation and application of this Act. | 9 10 |
| 4 Consultation of regional communities to comply with standards | 11 |
| (1) A consultation with a regional community by or on behalf of the State, a NSW Government agency or a statutory body representing the Crown must be carried out in accordance with the prescribed standard. | 12 13 14 |
| (2) This section does not apply to a consultation required by an Act to be carried out in a specified way. | 15 16 |
| (3) A failure to comply with this section does not affect the validity of a consultation. | 17 |
| (4) In this section— | 18 |
| prescribed standard means— | 19 |
| (a) until the regulations otherwise provide—the <i>Quality Assurance Standard For Community and Stakeholder Engagement</i> published by the International Association for Public Participation (IAP2 Federation) in May 2015, with all necessary changes, or | 20 21 22 23 |
| Note— The <i>Quality Assurance Standard For Community and Stakeholder Engagement</i> is available at https://iap2.org.au . | 24 25 |
| (b) a standard prescribed by the regulations for this section. | 26 |
| 5 Regulations | 27 |
| The Governor may make regulations about a matter that is— | 28 |
| (a) required or permitted by this Act to be prescribed, or | 29 |
| (b) necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act. | 30 31 |