



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

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

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### **SIMPLER PLANNING RULES FOR PRIMARY PRODUCERS AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

Proposed changes to planning rules will make it simpler for rural and primary production industries in regional NSW, helping farmers to get on with their jobs.

Consultation is due to start on the proposal which will look to combine five primary production and rural development planning policies into one.

Minister for Planning Anthony Roberts MP said working with producers and businesses will enable focused and practical reform.

“We are committed to simplifying the process for our regions to enable a streamlined approach to planning,” Mr Roberts said.

“Primary production is one of NSW's biggest industries, generating millions in export income and employing tens of thousands of people, particularly in regional areas.

“These people know their industries best and their feedback will help ensure the changes support productivity and growth.”

Mr Roberts said the proposed reforms address planning uncertainties in the primary production sector.

“Our proposals will remove confusion about the kinds of intensive livestock operations requiring planning approval so commercial operators, councils and the community all understand the requirements.”

Minister for Primary Industries, Niall Blair, encourages interested stakeholders to review the proposal and submit their comments for consideration.

“The State's primary industries have grown more than 30% since this Government was elected and are now worth a record \$15.44 billion.

“These proposed changes would allow a more simplified process, meaning our farmers would be able to get on with the day-to-day job of running a farm. I encourage producers and industry to provide feedback on the proposal.”

The changes will mean approvals are not needed for essential small scale, low impact activities like temporary housing or feeding of animals, routine maintenance of irrigation infrastructure, and stock containment facilities. The changes will also support feral goat depots.

The proposed policy changes are now on public exhibition for an extended eight-week period until 18 December.

Interested landowners, individuals, and industry operators are encouraged to make a submission and share their views on the proposed changes.

To view the proposed changes or make a submission, visit  
<http://www.planning.nsw.gov.au/PrimaryProductionSEPP>

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