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MEDIA RELEASE

THE HUNTER JO WELCOMES A NATIONAL NET ZERO AUTHORITY

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The Hunter Joint Organisation welcomes the recent announcement of the Commonwealth Government to establish a National Net Zero Authority and looks forward to working with them to support outcomes that align with our key principles for the benefit of the entire region. It is integral that place-based decision making is embedded throughout these processes to ensure support is provided that enhances our communities in the face of the Hunter's economic evolution.

One of the Hunter JO's key advocacy priorities, as identified by the ten Mayors of the region, is around the need for a clear, place-based, integrated whole of government policy and planning approach to drive the region's economic evolution.

This regional collaborative advocacy includes a call for a commitment to the following principles for a regional transition authority:

- A clear vision and plan for the region's economic evolution
- Has the authority to influence the efforts of various government agencies to align with the plan
- Sufficient resources to successfully and rapidly deliver the plan
- Ensure local government representation in place-based decisions that affect local communities

The announcement of the Net Zero Authority has the potential to address this need, and the focus on the opportunities of region's undergoing transformation provides some security that the Hunter will not be left to address these significant challenges on its own.

Cr Sue Moore, Chair of the Hunter JO and Mayor of Singleton Council, reflects that this type of coordinated whole-of-government approach is something that the Hunter has been advocating for as a necessity to drive and deliver the region's economic evolution.

"Without support from other levels of government, the Hunter region will be severely under resourced to tackle the substantial changes and consequences that are already emerging as global energy demands move away from coal and traditional energy industries," she said.

"The National Net Zero Authority is a welcome announcement for the whole region. We will continue our advocacy efforts to deliver beneficial outcomes to our communities in line with the key principles that Councils have identified. I look forward to working with the Commonwealth Government through this authority in both my capacity as Mayor of Singleton and Chair of the Hunter JO to ensure the needs of our region's workers, communities and industries are reflected throughout these efforts."



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As the largest regional economy in Australia, a just and effective transformation of the Hunter's economy is paramount to the success and prosperity of the entire country as we shift towards net zero energy targets by 2050.

The Hunter JO looks forward to working with all levels of government and industry to ensure a clear vision and plan for the region's economic evolution is established that provides Local Government representation and influence along with sufficient resources to successfully and rapidly deliver the plan.

Contact details

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Images are available for immediate use, please email request to Kali Somerville

About the Hunter JO

The Hunter Joint Organisation is a collaborative body that brings together the ten councils in the region to provide a united and local voice for our communities. As the hub for local intergovernmental collaboration, our statutory mandate includes identifying key regional strategic priorities, advocating for these priorities, and building collaborations around these priorities with other levels of government, industry and community. Find out more at www.hunterjo.com.au