



19th November 2009

Tumut Mayor Opposes State Government's Decision to shut out Snowy Hydro's bid

For Immediate Release

Tumut Shire Council's Mayor, Trina Thomson says she is concerned after reading the report in the Sydney Morning Herald on Wednesday, 18th November 2009 that claims that the NSW Government has moved to limit competition by blocking Snowy Hydro from bidding for the electricity assets up for sale.

Mayor Thomson says, "Snowy Hydro has the financial capacity to bring competition to the market whilst ensuring maximum returns for the sale as a bidder."

Mayor Thomson believes that the State Government's decision to exclude Snowy Hydro is one the community will not understand given that the group is effectively being told it cannot grow in its own market.

"It's important to the entire region that Snowy Hydro is a successful growing business and Snowy Hydro being able to bid in this process is critical to that objective. This community and the region benefits greatly both directly and indirectly from a successful Snowy Hydro and we won't stand idly by and watch its future prosperity put at risk by them being excluded from bidding on these assets up for sale."

"Snowy Hydro is not a government entity and is a major player in the electricity market". Mayor Trina Thomson believes it makes good sense for Snowy Hydro to be a bidder. "The Sydney Morning Herald's article, ("Snowy Hydro shut out of electricity assets sale", pp5, 18th Nov 2009) indicates to me that the Federal and Victorian Governments oppose the decision to block Snowy Hydro's bid. I call upon the New South Wales government to reverse its decision and invite Snowy Hydro to the auction and ask residents to voice any concerns to the State Government."

END

For more information contact:

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