



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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Media Release

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Windsor hopeful after meeting with PM on Snowy

Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor, described his mood after meeting with the Prime Minister on Wednesday afternoon in Canberra as “hopeful”.

“I was pleased to have a meeting with the Prime Minister on the Snowy Hydro Electricity proposed sale.

I was joined by fellow Independent Peter Andren and Coalition MPs Kay Hull, Joanna Gash, Alby Schultz, John Forrest and Senator Bill Heffernan.

It was an important meeting and gave me the opportunity of raising the concerns that I have and concerns of the many people who have contacted me over the proposed sale.

We put the case firmly for a full and open inquiry into the ramifications of a sale of Snowy Hydro.

I was very concerned that not all questions asked of the Prime Minister or his two Ministers, Nick Minchin and Malcolm Turnbull, could be satisfactorily answered indicating to me that the impact of the sale had not been fully investigated,” Mr Windsor said.

Mr Windsor said that at the start of the process of the proposed sale of Snowy Hydro, there were only two MPs, Peter Andren and himself, who had voted against the motion in the House of Representatives to sell Snowy Hydro and only the cross bench voted against the sale in the Senate when it reached there.

“Since Peter Andren and I forced a vote on the Government’s motion to sell off Snowy Hydro, people power has turned the heat up on both the Government and Opposition to review their decision and I’m pleased to say that people power is winning.

Attempts have been made to placate the concerns by the Government agreeing to introduce legislation to limit foreign ownership, where the Headquarters will be and the make up of the board. However this will not guarantee any changes in the future.

The sale of the Snowy is not a done deal yet and it would be in the Prime Minister’s and the nation’s best interests to not proceed with the sale.

I am hopeful that, given the level of concern in the community communicated to the Prime Minister at our meeting, that he will show leadership on this issue and support a full independent inquiry,” Mr Windsor said.

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