1. The Gasfields Commission (the commission), an independent statutory body, was established to manage and improve sustainable coexistence between rural landholders, regional communities and the onshore gas industry. The commission was formally established on 1 July 2013.
2. In December 2016, the Government considered the recommendations from an independent review of the commission and approved making amendments to the *Gasfields Commission Act 2013* to give effect to a number of these recommendations. These amendments will result in changes to the structure and operation of the commission.
3. The Bill also includes minor amendments to the *Biodiscovery Act 2004* which will make it simpler for companies undertaking biodiscovery activity to establish commercial agreements with their commercial chain partners.
4. A minor amendment to the *Sustainable Ports Development Act 2015* removes a technical anomaly to ensure that port overlay provisions are applied consistently to development assessed against a local government planning scheme under the *Sustainable Planning Act 2009* or a land use plan under the *Transport Infrastructure Act 1994* in port master planned areas.
5. Cabinet approved the introduction of the Gasfields Commission and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017into the Legislative Assembly.
6. *Attachments*
* [Gasfields Commission and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2017](Attachments/Bill.pdf)
* [Explanatory Notes](Attachments/ExNotes.pdf)