

Regional NSW counts down to State Election 2011

Today marks 100 days out from the March State Election, and the NSW Farmers' Association is determined to drive issues affecting regional NSW.

NSW Farmers' Association President Charles Armstrong is urging all political parties to develop policies that extend beyond Sydney.

"The outcome of the recent Federal Election should serve as a clear message to parties that regional issues can't be ignored.

"The Federal Election saw rural Australia thrust into the spotlight, and the Association is now working to keep that momentum going at a State level," Mr Armstrong said.

"As the countdown gets underway regional communities expect to see a lot more of Premier Kristina Keneally and Opposition Leader Barry O'Farrell," Mr Armstrong said.

The Association is focused on six key policy platforms in the lead up to polling day: Food Security; Regional Development; Red Tape; Sustainability; Property Rights and Supply Chains.

The Association will be unveiling key issues relating to the six policy platforms in coming weeks to all candidates and political parties.

"Agriculture has a significant role to play in the future of this State, contributing more than \$9 billion dollars to the NSW economy," Mr Armstrong said.

"Whatever the outcome on 26 March 2011, the next NSW Government must have a clear understanding of what country NSW can deliver.

"Political parties will be asked to give the Association a commitment about how they plan to work with agriculture, to ensure the industry as a whole can move forward," Charles Armstrong concluded.

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