

**A Message**

**to**

**the Premier and Planning Minister**

**from**

**the People of NSW**

**regarding**

**widespread community concerns**

**about the**

**failures of the Planning System.**

**19 Oct 2008**

# **Rally Against Inappropriate Development**

SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER 2008

HYDE PARK - PARLIAMENT HOUSE

WE RESIDENTS OF NEW SOUTH WALES are sick and tired of the blatantly corrupted planning policies and processes inflicted on us by successive Labor governments and the resulting destruction of our communities, heritage and environment.

THEREFORE:

1. WE CALL ON the Rees Government to immediately:
  - Revoke all legislation which forces unacceptable high density development on local communities.
  - Revoke Part 3A of the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act and return development control powers to local government.
  - Return to local government the planning powers seized by the minister in respect of planning and/or development including those given to planning panels.
  - Return current and proposed Local Environment Plans (LEPs) developed as a result of State Environmental Planning Policy 53 to local government.
  - Begin a process to replace the current flawed and ideologically driven planning system with one that takes into account the wishes and concerns of local communities.
  
2. WE PLEDGE, in the absence of immediate action, to begin the formation of an East Coast Alliance of Community Leaders to harness their experience and wisdom in fighting this government's undemocratic planning laws.
  
3. AND WE OFFER our advice and counsel to the government on achieving these reforms.

**Moved: Tony Recsei**

**Seconded: Jack Munday**

**Passed: Unanimously**

## The Concerns of Community Groups around NSW

| <b>Group</b>  | <b>Issue</b>   | <b>Contact</b>                     | <b>Contact</b>   |
|---|--|------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Anti Transmission Towers Action Group.</b>             | Vineyard to Rouse Hill High Voltage Feeder Line  | Colleen Abela                      | 0418-482-534.<br><a href="mailto:pation11@bigpond.com">pation11@bigpond.com</a>              |
| <b>Australian Coal Alliance</b>                           | Protect The Central Coast's Water Catchment  | Mike Campbell<br>Ron               | 43551287<br><a href="mailto:jiliby56@bigpond.com">jiliby56@bigpond.com</a>                   |
| <b>Ballina Environment Society</b>                        | The Ballina Gateway Project defies all policy and legal planning instruments   | Lyn Walker                         | 6687 6815  |
| <b>Ballina Environment Society</b>                        | Survey Street Development at Lennox Head defies commonsense re drainage and ecological considerations  | Lyn Walker                         | 6687 6815  |
| <b>Ballina Environment Society</b>                        | Far North Coast Regional Strategy prevent overdevelopment and lack of concern for the ecology of the area  | Lyn Walker                         | 6687 6815  |
| <b>Ballina Environment Society</b>                        | Petrac Pacific Pines Estate Development at Lennox Head for 481 lots and 6 super lots.  | Lyn Walker                         | 6687 6815  |
| <b>Ballina Environment Society</b>                        | Angel's Beach: Master Plan approved for a 57 block subdivision for 108 dwellings on the last remaining undeveloped Indigenous Heritage site on the Ballina Coast | Lyn Walker                         | 6687 6815  |
| <b>Barrington–Gloucester–Stroud Preservation Alliance</b> | Mining in the Gloucester Valley  | David Hare-Scott<br>Jane Stevenson | 4994 7277<br><a href="mailto:janestevo@bigpond.com">janestevo@bigpond.com</a>                |
| <b>Caroona Coal Action Group</b>                          | Inappropriate coal and gas mining within Liverpool Plains' highly productive food bowl & its world-class aquifer water supplies.                                 | Pauline Roberts                    | Phone (02) 6747 6224<br><a href="mailto:ccagweb@optusnet.com.au">ccagweb@optusnet.com.au</a> |

| <b>Group</b>                                     | <b>Issue</b>  | <b>Contact</b>                  | <b>Contact</b>   |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association</b>   | A development allowed at Catherine Hill Bay that does not comply with the NSW Coastal Policy, SEPP 71, NSW Coastal Design Guidelines and other guidelines set down by the Heritage Office | Sue Whyte,<br>President         | Phone 49762310,<br>0409344253,<br><a href="mailto:suewhyte1980@bigpond.com">suewhyte1980@bigpond.com</a> |
| <b>Cessnock Kurri Greens</b>                     | 700 lot housing in fragile Congewai Catchment   | Tim Plater                      | 0408 750 571   |
| <b>Coalition Against Private Overdevelopment</b> | Overdevelopment of Royal Rehabilitation Centre, Ryde  | Rolf Clapham                    | 0407 900 615   |
| <b>Craven Community</b>                          | Open-cut coal mining threat to agricultural land, rivers, health, homes.  | Gerald McCalden                 | (02) 6558 8273<br><a href="mailto:mccalden@tpg.com.au">mccalden@tpg.com.au</a>                           |
| <b>Eco-Network Port Stephens Inc.</b>            | The principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development must be adopted as the central focus and objective of Government planning  | Darrell Dawson                  | 4981-0170  |
| <b>Friends of Callan Park</b>                    | Reopen Callan Park as a site for the care of the mentally ill. Preserve and maintain the structures, landscapes and open green space of the site  | Hall Greenland,<br>President    | M: 0408 643 786<br>E: <a href="mailto:hallgreenland@gmail.com">hallgreenland@gmail.com</a>               |
| <b>Friends of Currawong</b>                      | Heritage listed buildings inside Heritage listed National Park threatened by subdivision, overdevelopment and tens of thousands of tons of infill.  | Shane Withington.               | Ph -:0417-424-668<br><a href="mailto:ripperriver@bigpond.com">ripperriver@bigpond.com</a> .              |
| <b>Friends of Eveleigh</b>                       | Save and use the large erecting shed at Eveleigh  | Lucy Taksa                      | 0414 345 131   |
| <b>Friends of Ku-ring-gai</b>                    | The protection of the heritage, character and environment of Ku-ring-gai and the nationally recognised 28 Inter-War National Trust classified Urban Conservation Areas                    | Kathy Cowley                    | <a href="mailto:kathy.cowley@bigpond.com">kathy.cowley@bigpond.com</a><br>0431 158 880                   |
| <b>Friends of Oatley</b>                         | Old Oatley Bowling Club in Myles Dunphy Reserve.... For aged care facility? Or high-rise residential?   | Anne Wagstaff<br>(spokesperson) | 0434 327 850<br><a href="mailto:wagstaf@bigpond.net.au">wagstaf@bigpond.net.au</a>                       |
| <b>Gloucester Project</b>                        | Proposal for the Gloucester region be declared as a climate change research and development area  | Marianne Johnson                | 6558 3191  |
| <b>Ironstone Community Action Group</b>          | Magnetite mining exploration licence threat to rural land and wild life habitat,  | Amanda Albury                   | 4997 5979  |

| <b>Group</b>                                   | <b>Issue</b>  | <b>Contact</b>                           | <b>Contact</b>   |
|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Jetty Action Group</b>                      | Development of Boambee Beach, Coffs Harbour   | Mal Anderson,                            | Phone: 6651 5565   |
| <b>Jetty Action Group</b>                      | Development of Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshores   | Mal Anderson,                            | Phone: 6651 5565   |
| <b>Johnsons Creek Conservation Committee</b>   | Application by Duralie open-cut mine in the Gloucester Basin to discharge mine waste water into Mammy Johnsons River  | Tony Tersteeg                            | <a href="mailto:styx@gobushmail.com.au">styx@gobushmail.com.au</a>           |
| <b>Kurri Kurri Landcare Inc</b>                | Coal mining pollution, acid mine drainage   | Col Maybury                              | 0427 889 653   |
| <b>Morisset Park and District Action Group</b> | Trinity Point Lake Macquarie – High Rise Apartments, Huge Marina and Helipad proposed in quiet residential area   | Ken Faulkes                              | 0437 702 163   |
| <b>Mosman Parks and Bushland Association</b>   | The alienation of public lands in Mosman into private hands, the deterioration of bushland and the need to encourage good principles of town planning.  | Anne Cook                                | 02 9969 6481<br><a href="mailto:annecook@tpg.com.au">annecook@tpg.com.au</a> |
| <b>Mudgee District Environment Group</b>       | Massive coal mining expansion with the Ulan, Moolarben and Wilpinjong mines; threatens integrity of Goulburn River, farmland, local community, wildlife habitat & increased global warming.   | Bev Smiles                               | 0428 817 282<br><a href="mailto:npovah@yahoo.com">npovah@yahoo.com</a>       |
| <b>Mullumbimby Community Action Network</b>    | Approval by Minister to build large supermarket in quiet residential street   | Deborah Lilly                            | 6684 3723  |
| <b>National Parks Association of NSW Inc</b>   | Changes by NSW Government to the Part 3A of the E&A act undemocratically allow inappropriate development & the destruction of native vegetation threatening the integrity of adjacent natural parks and undermining the Heritage Act. | Tim Bidder<br>President<br>Sydney Branch | 0421 993 660   |
| <b>No Tillegra Dam group</b>                   | Unnecessary damming of Williams river   | Sally Corbett                            | 0403 892 093   |
| <b>Ourimbah Community</b>                      | Unlicensed logging operations by State Forest of Toobys Creek in Ourimbah State Forest  | Deidrie Jinks                            | 4362 2499  |
| <b>Pillapai Rd Waterfront group</b>            | Return the decision making process for the Trinity Point development to Lake Macquarie Council  | Frank Tebbutt                            | 4970 5307  |

| <b>Group</b>   | <b>Issue</b>   | <b>Contact</b>                      | <b>Contact</b>   |
|--|--|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Port Macquarie Hastings Foreshore Protection Assoc</b>        | Westport Park Development Proposal: 2.37 hectares of Crown Land on the Foreshore at Port Macquarie's Westport Park   |                                     | <a href="mailto:foreshore@tpg.com.au">foreshore@tpg.com.au</a><br>0416 025 345                             |
| <b>Residents First</b>   | massive overdevelopment in Woollahra, e.g. proposed Ashington 3 tower development in Double Bay  | Geoff and Virginia Rundle           | Mob 0407215720<br><a href="mailto:rfw@residentsfirst.org">rfw@residentsfirst.org</a>                       |
| <b>Rivers SOS</b>  | Protecting NSW river systems from mine damage  | Caroline Graham                     | Phone 4630-9421<br><a href="mailto:rivers@bigpond.net.au">rivers@bigpond.net.au</a>                        |
| <b>Rouse Hill Heights Action Rouse Hill Heights Action Group</b> | The rights of Acreage Landowners   | Colleen Abela                       | 0418-482-534.<br><a href="mailto:patison11@bigpond.com">patison11@bigpond.com</a>                          |
| <b>Save Hastings Point</b>                                       | Inappropriate developments in Hastings Point   | John O'Reilly                       | <a href="mailto:john@oreilly.com.au">john@oreilly.com.au</a><br>6676 4390                                  |
| <b>Save Our Suburbs</b>  | Ban developer donations<br>Return planning powers to local councils  | Tony Recsei (spokesperson)          | Phone 02 9487 2061<br><a href="mailto:trecsei@bigpond.net.au">trecsei@bigpond.net.au</a>                   |
| <b>Save Sandon Point Action Group</b>                            | Why did the NSW Planning Dept choose to ignore the Findings & Recommendations of Sandon Point Commission of Inquiry to protect significant Aboriginal and natural heritage values? | Jill Merrin                         | 0422 655 711<br>Email:<br><a href="mailto:jillm@healthyillawarra.org.au">jillm@healthyillawarra.org.au</a> |
| <b>Save the Highlands</b>  | Public interest and private profit   | Lee Coulson                         | <a href="mailto:coulson@savethehighlands.net">coulson@savethehighlands.net</a>                             |
| <b>Tathra Action Group (TAG)</b>                                 | the effects on the village and the Bega River Estuary of a proposed development of about 300 dwellings on a peninsula overlooking the Bega River Estuary.                          | Dan Katz                            | 02-6494-5887<br><a href="mailto:dankatz83@hotmail.com">dankatz83@hotmail.com</a>                           |
| <b>Upper Hunter Landscape Guardians Inc.</b>                     | Kyoto Energy Park (47 Wind Turbines) – Scone NSW.  | Carmelle Lymbery<br>Gordon Halliday | 02 6545 2769.<br>02 6545 2814<br><a href="mailto:yarrandi@activ8.net.au">yarrandi@activ8.net.au</a>        |
| <b>Wrought Artworks</b>  | Threatened eviction of Wrought Artworks and the Volunteers of 3801, two self-funding tradition trade groups left on this large heritage site                                       | Wendie McCaffley                    | 02 93196190<br><a href="mailto:info@wroughtartworks.com">info@wroughtartworks.com</a>                      |

## **ANTI TRANSMISSION TOWERS ACTION GROUP.**

### **9JA Vineyard to Rouse Hill High Voltage Feeder Line**

**New High Voltage Power Line “Illegal”- Residents Sacrificed,  
Endangered, With No Compensation.**

- 1. Why won't Integral Energy move elderly residents when their house is right beside the new high voltage power line?**
- 2. Why won't the NSW Government release the Attorney-General's report into the legality of 9JA?**
- 3. Why weren't Integral Energy's suspect cost comparisons questioned?**
- 4. Why wasn't the line built underground?**  
**(Treasurer Costa made the final decision in Nov 06- was it because he knew then that the state had no money, or was it to make Integral Energy's bottom line more attractive for the Electricity sell-off?)**
- 5. How many more high voltage lines, power stations, substations, etc, will be built in our suburbs now that they are automatically approved under the new Planning Laws?**

**Colleen Abela (spokesperson) Phone Mob-: 0418-482-534.**

**patison11@bigpond.com**

**AUSTRALIAN COAL ALLIANCE INCORPORATED**

**PROTECT THE CENTRAL COAST'S WATER  
CATCHMENT**

1. Why has it taken 13 years of lobbying and "community consultation" to protect the coast's drinking water catchment from longwall mining?
2. We have lobbied four successive Minerals and Energy Ministers and none have shown any interest. Why is this?
3. Why has the State Government locked in the back room their own Scientific Committee who condemned underground mining near waterways and catchments?
4. Why won't the Departments debate the scientific arguments against longwall mining throughout the state?
5. Why doesn't the Government call a meeting with Rivers SOS, Total Environment Centre, Australian Coal Alliance (ACA) and others on mining and waterways?

Contact: Mike Campbell 43551287

[jilliby56@bigpond.com](mailto:jilliby56@bigpond.com)

# **BALLINA ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY INC.**

## **Ballina Gateway Project.**

### **The project defies all policy and legal planning instruments.**

- 1. Why not apply the height restrictions in the Ballina LEP, especially relevant because of the tall buildings on riverfront study?**
- 2. Why should people have to suffer massive overshadowing of their waterfront public access because of inappropriate heights?**
- 3. Is it acceptable to exacerbate the wind tunnel effect on a high use area of waterfront and CBD subjected to both high summer and winter winds?**
- 4. Why not have normal building setbacks from public spaces and normal heights rather than destroy the scenic quality of a major river side landscape in a tourist town ?**
- 5. Where is the investigation of the erosion possibilities especially as part of the foreshore here is reclaimed land?**

**Contact: Lyn Walker, President**

**Phone: 0266876815**

**Email: [bes66@westnet.com.au](mailto:bes66@westnet.com.au)**

# **BALLINA ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY INC.**

## **Survey Street Development at Lennox Head**

### **Defies all commonsense re drainage capabilities and ecological considerations**

- 1. Why was the Concept Plan approved when the community and a unanimous Ballina Council are opposed to the Plan in its present form?**
- 2. Given that drainage is a major reason for community opposition, who will be responsible to pay to fix the drainage when the developer will be long gone?**
- 3. Why is Council not being compensated for the time taken to try to make a concept plan work that has already been assessed by its staff as unworkable?**
- 4. Why are changes to the Planning Act under this government opposed to community input and Land and Environment challenge for the completed plans?**
- 5. How is protection guaranteed for the threatened species, Hairy Joint Grass, as found on this site?**

**Contact: Lyn Walker, President**

**Phone: 0266876815**

**Email: [bes66@westnet.com.au](mailto:bes66@westnet.com.au)**

# **BALLINA ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY INC.**

## **Far North Coast Regional Strategy**

### **Prevent over development and lack of concern for the ecology of the area.**

- 1. Why are biodiversity and conservation constrained areas still not excised from proposed urban release areas?**
- 2. Why impose population increase projections without comprehensive and expert carrying capacity studies that take into account ecological, social, infrastructure and funding limits?**
- 3. Why are most of the urban release areas in the Strategy connected solid blocks when the Plan declares an aim to get rid of coastal sprawl in favour of villages?**
- 4. Where are the critical cultural heritage protection provisions both Aboriginal and European?**
- 5. What are the provisions for review and monitoring, including public participation?**

**Contact: Lyn Walker, President**

**Phone: 0266876815**

**Email: [bes66@westnet.com.au](mailto:bes66@westnet.com.au)**

# **BALLINA ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY INC.**

**Petrac Pacific Pines Estate Development at Lennox Head for 481 lots and 6 super lots.**

**Roads, protection of environment and height limits all inadequate.**

- 1. Why was the Master Plan approved on the assumption, in contradiction of the evidence, that there will be infrastructure in place to cope with the volume of traffic south to Ballina and north to Lennox Head village?**
- 2. Why is there no consent condition for the assumed infrastructure to be built including the timing of completion and funding of both feeder roads?**
- 3. Why was Petrac able to get approval despite misleading the public, and therefore not having had public consultation, about what was to be submitted in the concept plans?**
- 4. Why are height limits as prescribed in the Ballina L.E.P. and the Lennox Head Strategic Plan exceeded for more buildings than the agreed Seniors Living building simply on the basis that it will make more profit for the developer?**
- 5. Why are the environmental concerns ignored for both the placement of the road infrastructure on the edge of wetlands and the full protection of a threatened species?**

**Contact: Lyn Walker, President**

**Phone: 0266876815 Email: [bes66@westnet.com.au](mailto:bes66@westnet.com.au)**

# **BALLINA ENVIRONMENT SOCIETY INC.**

## **RESPECT INDIGENOUS HERITAGE AT ANGELS BEACH EAST BALLINA**

**Master Plan approved for a 57 block subdivision  
for 108 dwellings on the last remaining undeveloped  
Indigenous Heritage site on the Ballina Coast  
– North Angels Beach.**

- 6. Why was it called in and approved by the Minister when it was known that there were major, significant Indigenous Heritage issues unresolved on this land?**
- 7. Why does DECC continue giving Section-90 “Consent to Destroy” licences to its favourite developers regardless of the heritage significance of the land?**
- 8. Why wasn’t a thorough archaeological and anthropological study commissioned to ascertain the actual heritage significance of this land before the Master Plan was approved?**
- 9. If it is to be developed why not require all mapped archaeological sites be first identified and fenced off, as a condition of development, instead of leaving it to the developer to decide what he would like to do with any artifacts unearthed?**

**Contact: Lyn Walker, President**

**Phone: 0266876815 Email: bes66@westnet.com.au**

# **BARRINGTON-GLOUCESTER-STROUD PRESERVATION**

## **ALLIANCE INC**

### **MINING IN THE GLOUCESTER VALLEY – QUESTIONS FOR NSW GOVT**

- 1 Why does the NSW Government approve coal and other forms of mining in the Gloucester valley? The valley is a food-bowl for the future, the rivers running through it supply drinking water to the NSW mid-north coast urban areas, and the valley is a renowned tourist area, gateway to the World Heritage Barrington Tops.
- 2 When will the government take into account the fact that the Gloucester valley is closely settled? The mining of Gloucester coal, 99% of which is sent overseas, destroys the hopes and lifestyles of the resident voters who are affected by the mines. Already more than eighty families have been bought out by the mining companies.
- 3 When will the government realise that transport costs are increasing and having rich farmland close to the urban markets of Sydney and Newcastle will become increasingly important in the future?
- 4 At present mining and refining operations are given preferential treatment on being allowed to pollute. When will the law be changed so that pollution and other harmful issues caused by mining will be monitored by independent organisations instead of by the polluters? Individuals and small companies are required to cover their loads on the roads but miners can transport huge volumes of unwashed minerals by rail uncovered. When will the same standard be applied to miners as to other industries?
- 5 The State Government is elected to represent all citizens. However when it comes to large developments it has watered down the reviews so that citizens effectively have no input. Likewise all power to determine such cases has been stripped from local government, the body that is in the best position to understand local conditions and the views of the people. When will the NSW Government start representing all of the people instead of just the developers?

**David Hare-Scott PH: 4994-7277**

**Jane Stevenson (Hon Sec) [janestevo@bigpond.com](mailto:janestevo@bigpond.com)**

## **CAROONA COAL ACTION GROUP**

**Preventing wholly inappropriate coal and gas mining within Liverpool Plains' highly productive food bowl & its world-class aquifer water supplies.**

- 1 Why does the NSW State government not recognise prime agricultural land – and the ability to grow our own food – as a national security asset and protect it accordingly from any other development purpose?**
- 2 Why does the NSW State government not recognise above- and below-ground water supplies as a national security asset and protect them accordingly from any other development purpose?**
- 3 Why is the NSW State government prepared to threaten clean air, clean food and clean water supplies for generations to come by mining when there are already 570 unremediated mines in NSW that continue to pollute our environment?**
- 4 Why does the NSW government mandate that all loads must be covered in NSW but allow coal trains, with their toxic cargo, to remain uncovered?**
- 5 Given that coal communities have been shown to have higher rates of disease (Hendryx et. al. 2008) how much per capita does the government spend on asthma and respiratory diseases in coal communities compared to non-coal communities?**

**Pauline Roberts Phone (02) 6747 6224 ccagweb@optusnet.com.au**

## **CATHERINE HILL BAY PROGRESS ASSOCIATION**

### **A NATIONAL TRUST TEST CASE**

- 1. Why were 2 developers, Rose group and Coal and Allied granted development rights on land that was zoned for conservation and coastal acquisition?**
- 2. Why is development allowed at Catherine Hill Bay that does not comply with the NSW Coastal Policy, SEPP 71, NSW Coastal Design Guidelines and other guidelines set down by the Heritage Office?**
- 3. Why was development allowed in an area that has no infrastructure and was considered so unsuitable for residential development that the Department of Planning rated it second last out of a possible 90 areas where residential development could occur?**
- 4. Why was the Independent Hearing and Assessment Panel not allowed to comment on the number of houses in each of the proposed developments?**
- 5. Why did the Department of Planning refuse to assess the cumulative impact of the 900 proposed new dwellings in Catherine Hill Bay and deal with each development proposal separately?**

**Sue Whyte, President Catherine Hill Bay Progress Association.**

**Phone: 49762310, 0409344253, [suewhyte1980@bigpond.com](mailto:suewhyte1980@bigpond.com)**

**Website: [www.catherinehillbay.org.au](http://www.catherinehillbay.org.au)**

## **Cessnock Kurri Greens**

**Hardie Holdings: Sanctuary Villages – Paxton /Millfield**

**A 700 lot housing subdivision in the fragile Congewai**

**Catchment a rural village/farming region.**

- 1 A Department of Planning study of major developments in the Lower Hunter rated this project as the worst out of 115 proposals. Why was this project allowed ?**
- 2 Why has the boundary for the Waste Water Treatment Works been modified to suit this development ? A major part of this development is within the long standing Hunter Water Odour Buffer Zone**
- 3 Is it appropriate that a consultant for the Hardie Holdings project is also on the board of Hunter Water , which is making planning decisions about this project ?**
- 4 Why is there no Voluntary Planning Agreement on display for this project despite being required by the Director General of Planning ?**
- 5 Why is there no comprehensive Green House gas emission study as required by the Director General of Planning?**

**Tim Plater (spokesperson) Phone Mob-: 0408750571**

**timplater@bigpond.com**



## **COALITION AGAINST PRIVATE OVERDEVELOPMENT**

### **ROYAL REHABILITATION CENTRE RYDE OVERDEVELOPMENT**

**First Part 3A - State significant development to the Minister for Planning.**

- 1. Community votes for 250-300 houses not to overdevelop the site with 800 Dwellings / units up to 6 Storeys high in the Suburb of Putney that is only 1500 detached houses.**
- 2. 4500 additional cars a day onto local roads currently up to 10000 cars per day that are already 300% over RTA guidelines when it could be all traffic to Traffic lights onto Victoria Rd.**
- 3. All buildings being demolished why not have Adaptive reuse of Heritage Significant buildings.**
- 4. All but 4 hectares of 18 hectares being sold for estimated \$85 million for overdevelopment to fund Not for Profit Royal Rehabilitation Centre's new \$40 million dollar hospital with only 64 beds which is less than the 240 beds in 1996.**
- 5. Premier Rees says they will listen to peoples concerns & will act on them.  
Where is this ACTION?**

## **CRAVEN COMMUNITY**

**Open-cut coal mining is threatening agricultural land, rivers, our health and wellbeing, and our very homes.**

- 1. Why does the NSW Government give carte blanche to overseas investors to exploit our mineral reserves for their profit?**
- 2. Why does the NSW Government permit and encourage mining companies to destroy productive agricultural land – for ever?**
- 3. Why do the Australian and NSW State Governments permit mining in places such as the Gloucester-Stroud Valley, an area of great beauty and heritage significance, and a leading tourist destination?**
- 4. Why does the NSW Government attach more importance to coal royalties than to the health and wellbeing of its people, and the security of future generations?**
- 5. Why does the NSW Government permit coal miners to invade established communities, push residents out of their homes and off their land, while paying only token compensation?**

## **ECO-NETWORK PORT STEPHENS INC.**

**EcoNetwork, as a conservation and natural heritage network asks; when will:**

- 1 The principles of Ecologically Sustainable Development be adopted as the central focus and objective of Government planning, as distinct from green-wash?**
- 2 There be a just transition from fossil-fuel dependency to renewable technologies?**
- 3 Land clearing of natural vegetation be banned and punishable by law?**
- 4 Dependence on the free-market be abandoned?**
- 5 More encouragement for socially useful and ecologically responsible investment?**

**Darrell Dawson (Secretary) Phone (02) 4981-0170**

**[econet@nelsonbay.com](mailto:econet@nelsonbay.com)**



## FRIENDS OF CALLAN PARK

Friends of Callan Park want to see Callan Park (Callan Park and Broughton Hall) reopened as a site for the care of the mentally ill and the structures, landscapes and open green space of the site preserved and maintained in accordance with the Callan Park (Special Provisions) Act 2002 by a Callan Park Trust.

1. **PSYCHIATRIC SERVICES:** Daily press reports on psychiatric problems in the community reinforce the desperate need for such services; when will the government reopen Rozelle Hospital?
2. **CALLAN PARK LAND USE PLAN 2007** is outside the scope of the Callan Park (Special Provisions) Act 2002: when will the government release the report on the public submissions made in February 2008 in response to that *Plan*?
3. **MASTERPLAN FOR CALLAN PARK:** When will the government conduct a transparent, inclusive, public debate as part of an open masterplanning process for Callan Park?
4. **CALLAN PARK TRUST BILL 2008:** Will the government and opposition support the Callan Park Trust Bill 2008 and if so, when will the Trust be established?
5. **BROUGHTON HALL:** What are the immediate and long term plans for the restoration, maintenance and use of Broughton Hall (the home which gives its name to the site), the other buildings on the Broughton Hall precinct, and the fragile heritage gardens?

Contact: Hall Greenland, President, FOCF  
E: [hallgreenland@gmail.com](mailto:hallgreenland@gmail.com)

M: 0408 643 786

## **FRIENDS OF CURRAWONG.**

**Heritage listed buildings inside Heritage listed National Park threatened by subdivision, overdevelopment and tens of thousands of tons of infill.**

- 1. Is the Minister aware that the Developers Allan Linz and Eduard Litver are the winners of the worst developers in N.S.W?**
- 2. Is the Minister aware that they plan to dump tens of thousands of tons of infill, over a hundred years, on a beach inside the borders of a Nationally Heritage listed National Park?**
- 3. Is the Minister aware that every single Heritage and conservation body in the state is vehemently opposed to this development?**
- 4. Is the Minister aware of the 30 year campaign, which has overwhelming community support, to conserve this historic and iconic site?**
- 5. Will the Minister guarantee that the wishes of the people be respected and this appalling development be prevented?**

**Shane Withington. Friends of Currawong.**

**Ph -:O417-424-668 [ripperriver@bigpond.com](mailto:ripperriver@bigpond.com).**

## **FRIENDS OF EVELEIGH**

**Save and use the Large Erecting Shop at Eveleigh.**

- 1 Save the Large as an active Heritage Railway Workshop?**
- 2 Why not save the Large as a Railway Museum?**
- 3 We need a railway workshop to be shared by all Heritage Groups.**
- 4 People want Heritage, will you give them heritage or concrete?**
- 5 Heritage rail touring will die without a Sydney CBD presence?**

**Lucy Taksa (Spokesperson) Phone Mob: 0414 345 131**

**ltaksa@bigpond.net.au**

## FRIENDS OF KU-RING-GAI

### OUR FIGHT:

We are fighting to protect the heritage, character and environment of Ku-ring-gai and the Nationally recognised 28 Inter-War National Trust classified Urban Conservation Areas situated within the context of the original Blue Gum High Forest, now listed State and Federally as a critically endangered ecological community, from excessive overdevelopment in the form of high rise development, forced on Ku-ring-gai by State Government Planning policies (SEPP 53, Part 3A powers etc.) and the NSW Metro-strategy through the undemocratic imposition of the Minister's Planning Panel, removing Council's planning powers for implementation of the Local Environmental Plan - Town Centres.

### 5 QUESTIONS TO THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING – THE Hon. Kristina Keneally:

1. WHEN WILL KU-RING-GAI'S NATIONALLY RECOGNISED 28 NATIONAL TRUST URBAN CONSERVATION AREAS (FIRST STUDIED IN 1997), BE GAZETTED?
2. WHY IS THE MINISTER'S PLANNING PANEL BREACHING THE SECTION 55 DIRECTION IN PLANNING FOR HIGHRISE DEVELOPMENT IN EXCESS OF THE STANDARDS LEP 194?
3. THE NORTH SUB REGION METROSTRATEGY DWELLING TARGET SET FOR KU-RING-GAI IS 10,000 NEW DWELLINGS BY 2031 THEN WHY IS THE MINISTERS PLANNING PANEL PLANNING FOR IN EXCESS OF 15,000 DWELLINGS BY 2031?
4. WHAT ADDITIONAL RAIL, BUS, ROAD AND ESSENTIAL SERVICES INFRASTRUCTURE E.G. SEWERAGE AND WATER IS PLANNED FOR KU-RING-GAI'S ADDITIONAL 10,000 DWELLINGS, ADDITIONAL 20,000 PEOPLE AND 20,000 CARS BY 2031?
5. WHEN WILL THE MINISTER MEET WITH FRIENDS OF KU-RING-GAI TO DISCUSS THE OVERPLANNING IN KU-RING-GAI?

# Friends Of Oatley Inc.

## Old Oatley Bowling Club in Myles Dunphy Reserve....

### For aged care facility? Or high-rise residential?

1. Why does Hurstville Council want to sell (or lease) this asset?
2. Is it because Council wants to make up for its \$9.1m write-down of CDOs (and this was before Lehman Bros declared bankruptcy)?
3. Why did Hurstville Council conduct a forum, but forget to invite the community?
4. Why won't Hurstville Council release to the public the consultants' reports, paid for by the ratepayer?
5. When is Hurstville Council going to commence formal consultation with the community on future options for community use?

Anne Wagstaff (spokesperson) Phone Mob-: 0434 327 850

[wagstaf@bigpond.net.au](mailto:wagstaf@bigpond.net.au)

## **THE GLOUCESTER PROJECT**

**A community based program which proposes that the Gloucester region be declared as a climate change research and development area, emphasising the production of food, energy and water. It is attracting research and development resources and will make all results of this program available to the nation.**

- 1. Does the State Government recognise the Food Bowl potential of the Gloucester area?**
- 2. Does the State Government take into consideration that climate change and urban spread have seriously reduced our state's food producing capacity?**
- 3. Will the State Government's planning processes recognise that food producing is a land use priority, particularly in the 21st century?**
- 4. Will the State Government support the Gloucester Project's plans to combine food production, sustainable energy production and climate change mitigation research?**
- 5. Will the State Government recognise that the results of the Gloucester Project's research and development program will benefit communities throughout the nation?**

**Marianne Johnson Secretary The Gloucester Project**

**0265583191**

**[www.thegloucesterproject.org.au](http://www.thegloucesterproject.org.au)**

**[thegloucesterproject@y7mail.com](mailto:thegloucesterproject@y7mail.com)**

## **IRONSTONE COMMUNITY ACTION GROUP**

### **Magnetite Mining Exploration Licence; threatens rural land, lifestyle, wildlife habitat & Tourist Drive forever.**

- 1 Why does Government approve all forms of mining, which is quickly destroying the Barrington-Gloucester-Stroud to 12 Mile Creek basin and these unique valley areas, rich rural land, habitat for wildlife and a designated NSW Tourist Drive?**
- 2 ‘We the people of Australia have regulations we must abide by and farm under’; Why are mining companies given ‘political right’ to override all these Regulations, with no regard for anyone, anything, or the waste-land they leave behind?**
- 3 Why does the Australian Government and State Government approve mining, in sensitive areas where there are water sources, where mining companies divert creeks & rivers, pollute through leached toxins; acid mine drainage, heavy metals and arsenic etc?**
- 4 Since our land is zoned “rural” and includes a “tree preservation area”, with the subsequent development restrictions, does any mine development mean that the Government has no concern for local native wildlife and the rural amenity of the area, and will restrictions be lifted for all affected lands?**
- 5 Will the Government/mining Company fully compensate affected landowners for loss, land devaluation, or being directly/indirectly affected by the open cut mine, through noise/blasting & dust etc.?**

**Amanda Albury Phone (02) 4997-5979 [saorb@idl.net.au](mailto:saorb@idl.net.au)**

# JETTY ACTION GROUP

## Development of Boambee Beach, Coffs Harbour

1. Why have the Lands and Planning ministers ignored already known and clearly advised environmental concerns?
2. How can either of the ministers ignore the fact that this beach is dangerous and totally unsuited to National Surf Titles?
3. Have the ministers considered that removing the sand dunes will expose the flood-prone land behind to coastal inundation?
4. Why even remotely consider having a surf club at a surfless beach?
5. Isn't this part of a plan to link up intensive developments with the Jetty foreshores and nearby Howard Street?

Mal Anderson, Secretary, Jetty Action Group, Phone: 6651 5565

malandval@optusnet

# JETTY ACTION GROUP

## Development of Coffs Harbour Jetty Foreshores

1. What is the State government's clear and unambiguous buffer in allowing for rising sea levels – height above high-water mark, inland inundation risk?
2. Why hasn't the Lands Minister convened an open public forum before even considering the plan?
3. Have developer's contributions to ALP coffers helped to convince the minister that the plan is worthy?
4. Why hasn't the Lands minister called for an EIS as the first step in the planning process?
5. How can the minister contemplate handing over any part of public land that is so spectacularly popular with residents and tourists alike?

Mal Anderson, Secretary, Jetty Action Group, Phone: 6651 5565

malandval@optusnet

## **Johnsons Creek Conservation Committee Inc**

Duralie Open-cut Coal Mine in the Gloucester Basin has applied ***“to discharge mine waste water into Mammy Johnsons River”*** a tributary of the Karuah River, which flows on into Port Stephens.

1. We have 12 years of guarantees & promises from the government & the mining company regarding the ***“protection of Mammy Johnsons River”*** and ***“no direct discharge into the river”***. Will you honour these guarantees & promises?
2. Will Duralie Coal be required to change their consent under Part 3A or Part 4 of the EP&A Act before applying for an Environmental Protection Licence variation?
3. Which government departments monitor Mammy Johnsons River and the water quality?
4. Did the government departments monitor Mammy Johnsons River prior to the commencement of mining?
5. How often do these departments monitor Mammy Johnsons River?
6. Are the departments monitoring results available for public viewing?
7. If Governments apply “strict Conditions of Consent” to protect the economic and environmental standards of the community, are they then culpable if they relax these conditions and harm to the community occurs?
8. Are companies hiring consultants to self assess their environmental standards a form of “insider trading”?
9. Why are international mining companies continually given priority over Australian citizens?

Tony Tersteeg/ President email: [styx@gobushmail.com.au](mailto:styx@gobushmail.com.au) Jenny Thomson/ Secretary

email: [jccc@gobushmail.com](mailto:jccc@gobushmail.com)

## **KURRI KURRI LANDCARE INC.**

Coal mining pollution, acid mine drainage, AMD, still affects our Kurri Kurri mining area's creeks 30 years after mining ceased and will for many decades to come.

- 1 Does coal mining heavy metal pollution and siltation kill aquatic wildlife, raise the bed of creeks and rivers, promote the growth of invasive reeds and trees, and, cause local damaging flooding as Kurri residents claim it does?
- 2 If Acid Mine Drainage, AMD, pollution is being ignored by governments and authorities, because of the royalties flowing into their wages and pensions, how can we possibly control long term environmental damage?
- 3 Why would toxic lead, acid etched from the disturbed coal seams in the dry bed of a creek through a children's playground be acceptable to local authorities?
- 4 If "mine acid," put into Google Search produces millions of hits of web information and hundreds of thousands of terrible images then why does it not appear in government statements on mining waste water disposal such as the Hunter Salinity Trading Scheme. Are they trying to hide this dangerous acid and heavy metal pollution?
- 5 Why are there no widespread acid and heavy metal neutralisation methods used in the Hunter Valley as mining does in Canada under the MEND scheme?

Contact: Col Maybury

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# **MORISSET PARK AND DISTRICT ACTION GROUP INC**

## **TRINITY POINT LAKE MACQUARIE – HIGH RISE APARTMENTS, HUGE MARINA AND HELIPAD PROPOSED IN QUIET RESIDENTIAL AREA**

1. Given that the developer in 2004 submitted a Master Plan for this site that was environmentally responsible and met with Council and community approval, but took advantage of the passing of the Part 3A legislation in 2005 to propose the current Concept Plan that is a grotesque overdevelopment, flouts good planning principles and has been condemned by every community group in the area, will the Minister review the decision to grant the proposal Part 3A status and return consent authority for the project to Lake Macquarie Council?
2. Given that so many people over many years have settled in this area because of its tranquil and quiet nature, and that the proposed high rise buildings, megamarina and floating heliport would utterly destroy these qualities, how does the Minister consider that these residents should be compensated?
3. Given that the proposed high density apartment buildings up to 26 metres high are not only massively out of keeping with the local area but also unprecedented for any waterfront site in Lake Macquarie, does the Minister consider that the Part 3A legislation should be used to flout good planning principles in so flagrant a manner?
4. Given that the proposed 308 berth marina not only annexes 25 acres (larger than Circular Quay) of a small bay but is designed to cater predominantly for very large boats 12 – 20 metres in length, and that such an influx of huge powerboats would permanently change the nature and amenity of Lake Macquarie, will the Minister agree that approval for so far reaching a change should be the responsibility of Lake Macquarie Council?
5. Given that the proposed private commercial helipad in the middle of Bardens Bay would serve very few people while disturbing many hundreds, will the Minister agree that Part 3A legislation should not be used to foist so intrusive a facility on a residential neighbourhood?

*Ken Faulkes 0437 702 163*

*mpdag@iprimus.com.au*

## **The Mosman Parks and Bushland Association**

The Mosman Parks and Bushland Association was established in 1964 to resist the alienation of public lands in Mosman into private hands, to prevent the deterioration of bushland and to encourage good principles of town planning.

We are currently fighting:

1. Current rezoning proposals for public land
2. a proposed DA to build an elevated driveway over a small and well-used foreshore public park at Curraghbeena Point, on Sydney Harbour
3. a proposal to build an elevated roadway across a public bushland reserve at Wyargine Point, Balmoral Beach

Questions for the Premier and Minister:

1. Why does the government want to change the zonings of public land, thereby radically reducing the protection these lands have had? The loss of the current 7A zoning would be a tragedy for the few remaining pockets of remnant bushland that are essential for species preservation.
2. Why did the government back track with its environmental standards for new buildings?
3. Why has the government moved from a relatively democratic system for Development Applications to one which concentrates the decisions in the person of the Minister and disenfranchises residents?
4. Why are the protections for heritages buildings being downgraded?
5. Will the Government take steps to ensure that the community is made aware of proposed developments?

Contact Name: Anne Cook Phone number: 02 9969 6481

Email address: [annecook@tpg.com.au](mailto:annecook@tpg.com.au) Sue Halmagyi: President

## **Mudgee District Environment Group**

Massive coal mining expansion with the Ulan, Moolarben and Wilpinjong mines; threatens integrity of Goulburn River, farmland, local community, wildlife habitat & increased global warming.

- 1 The Mudgee region is being impacted by three large opencut and longwall mining operations on the headwaters of the Goulburn River, the most western tributary of the Hunter Catchment. The mines are adjacent to the Goulburn River National Park and Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve.
- 2 The cumulative impacts of the three mines on water sources, habitat loss, integrity of sandstone gorges, dust, noise and vibrations, loss of land value, community and productive farmland have not been adequately assessed.
- 3 Mudgee District Environment Group has been calling on the NSW Government to conduct an independent water study of the upper Goulburn River catchment.
- 4 The conditions of consent for the three mines do not adequately protect the community or surrounding environment. On going modifications and variations to the conditions are being proposed to Department of Planning with inadequate opportunity for community response.
- 5 The combined three mines and proposed expansions will be responsible for over 100 million tonnes of additional CO2 per year.

**Bev Smiles 0428 817 282 [npovah@yahoo.com](mailto:npovah@yahoo.com)**



**Refused by the Local Council, approved by Sartor, Woolworths want to build a huge box supermarket in a quiet residential street of Mullumbimby and destroy the town.**

**QUESTIONS FOR THE MINISTER OF PLANNING:**

1. Have you read the letter addressed to you as Planning Minister dated 30 September 2008 from the Mullumbimby Community Action Network?
2. Will you refuse the S96 Application from Woolworths to build their full building without adequate sewage arrangements?
3. Does the Department of Planning always assess complex technical issues raised by a DA by passing them straight to the Applicant, or do they sometimes engage independent experts to give unbiased opinions on these issues where the Department itself has insufficient expertise?
4. When assessing Development Applications, does your government consider ecological principles such as food-miles, social impacts such as the demise of small local businesses and economic impacts such as the fostering of supermarket duopolies?

**QUESTION FOR NSW STATE PREMIER:**

1. Do you intend to retain the planning legislation that allows your Minister in Sydney to take over the planning roles of Local Government anywhere in NSW, to disregard local wishes and to approve inappropriate developments like the Woolworths supermarket in Mullumbimby?

Contact:

Deborah Lilly

Co-ordinator

02-66843723

## **NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION OF NSW INC**

National Parks Association of NSW inc (NPA) supports the participants of this rally and particularly where the changes by the NSW Government to the Part 3A of the E&A act undemocratically allow inappropriate development and the destruction of native vegetation threatening the integrity of adjacent natural parks and undermining the Heritage Act.

### **Accordingly, the community requires:**

- 1) Immediate access to legislative change which enables third party appeals based on merit as a reasonable start.
- 2) Repeal of part 3A of the E&A Act.
- 3) Repeal of former Minister Sartor's Development Panels

**contact:        Tim Bidder - President Sydney Branch NPA**

**mobile:                0421 993 660**

## **NO TILLEGRA DAM GROUP**

**The damming of the Williams River is:**

- **dam unnecessary – oversupply of water for the Hunter**
  - **dam expensive – cheaper, better alternatives**
  - **dam destructive – destroys farmland, families, environment**
- 1 Why was Tillegra Dam proposed in November 2006 when Hunter Water Corporation's 2006 planning document did not identify it as necessary?**
  
  - 2 Why supply the equivalent of 450 rainwater tanks of water to each Hunter household?**
  
  - 3 Why flood 3000 plus hectares of irreplaceable agricultural land when the world is facing drastic food shortages?**
  
  - 4 Why cause irreparable environmental damage to the only remaining healthy river in the Hunter?**
  
  - 5 Will the State Government mount an independent enquiry into the cheaper, more sustainable alternatives leading to gradual costs over the planning period whilst educating the public on water conservation?**

**Contact: Sally Corbett**

**Phone: (02) 4992 1971**

**Mobile: 0403 892 093 Email**

**scorbett3@bigpond.com**

## **OURIMBAH COMMUNITY INC.**

Toobys Creek in Ourimbah State Forest was the longest intact canopy of Lowland Rainforest (an endangered ecological community) in the region, until brutalized by State Forests in an illegal logging operation. It has been left to die under a blanket of weeds. The community want access to and bush regeneration funding for this popular and important public land.

Five Questions for the Premier and Minister for Planning.

1. When State Forests conducts 'unlicensed' logging operations which put them outside the RFA conditions, why is not the Threatened Species Conservation Act enforced to stop the slaughter of endangered species, populations and ecosystems?
2. Why is Wyong Council allowed to ignore advice from your Minister of Local Government, that Toobys Creek Road is a gazetted crown road reserve, and ensure that the public can travel along the road without incident?
3. Why do you allow native forest logging to continue when sufficient local plantation timber can be substituted?
4. Why do you allow endangered species, populations and ecosystems to be destroyed, then make us pay for it through the forestry subsidies. Do you have interests, or mates, in the woodchip export industry?
5. Why do you allow native forest logging to continue right on the edge of new suburban areas, stealing the forest, the water and invaluable ecological services required for the long term environmental viability of the local community?

Ourimbah Community Inc  
Contact: Deidrie Jinks  
Phone: 43 622 499  
Email: [deidrie@asecomputing.com](mailto:deidrie@asecomputing.com)

## PILLAPAI RD WATERFRONT GROUP

### DELIBERATE MISUSE OF PART 3A PLANNING LEGISLATION WHICH SEEKS TO CIRCUMVENT THE EXISTING LAKE MACQUARIE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN 2004 FOR THE MORISSET PENINSULA

**G**iven that the Trinity Point development concept has been granted Part 3A status, what protection will you guarantee the residents and users of Lake Macquarie that the approval will meet the provisions of the LEP 2004 which was carefully considered by Lake Macquarie residents after significant consultation by Lake Macquarie Council?

**W**hat guarantees can the residents be given that this proposal will meet the specific requirements for coastal protection as determined and envisaged when the Environment Planning and Assessment Act was amended?

**T**he Lower Hunter Regional Development Plan (LHRDP) calls for sustainable tourist development, which benefits the community in both the short and long term. Given that this development will require additional public infrastructure in terms of electricity, water, telecommunication, public transport, roads and health (which are already stretched), what steps will the government take to ensure that this development will deliver on its stated outcomes and not turn into a white elephant with the subsequent waste of government resources.

**T**he Trinity Point development proposal will have the largest marina development in NSW, provision for a heliport, high density residential and tourist facilities and a marine workshop (to cater for vessels up to 65 feet) and accordingly each of these will have detailed studies and modelling covering every aspect of the effects on the marine, land use, air quality, noise intrusion, flora and fauna impacts, and marine navigation safety which should be prepared by qualified and accredited experts. Given the complexity of such reports, what guarantee can be given that the community will be given sufficient time to digest and review the proposal such that we are given due and fair process for inputting into the decision.

**G**iven that the scale of this proposal will not only affect the local residents but also the wider community of Lake Macquarie users and the broader community of NSW who are interested in environmental protection, will you consider returning the decision making process involving assessment and approval of this development to Lake Macquarie Council.

FRANK TEBBUTT Ph: 0249 705307 ftebbutt@bigpond.com



Port Macquarie-Hastings Foreshore Protection Association Inc.  
PO Box 106B, Port Macquarie NSW 2444  
Email: foreshore@tpg.com.au Phone: 0416 025 345

## **PORT MACQUARIE HASTINGS FORESHORE PROTECTION ASSOC INC**

### **WESTPORT PARK DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL –**

The Department of Lands entered into an EOI process for 2.37 hectares of Crown Land on the Foreshore at Port Macquarie's Westport Park in December 2006. They selected the owners of the Port Marina (adjacent to the Crown Land) as the successful party to re-develop the site.

Westport Park is an area of very limited public open space on the Foreshore at Port Macquarie and is part of the link of public open space from Town Beach to the Settlement City Precinct.

It is the desire of the Department of Lands and Ariadne Australia Ltd to commercially develop this site in exchange for some improvements to public works on the adjoining public open space.

1. The construction of a dry boat stack/industrial marine facility on the foreshore of the CBD is inappropriate. Why has the Department of Lands agreed to this concept.
2. Has the Department of Lands considered another location for the industrial scale dry boat stack.
3. Has the Department of Lands and Ariadne considered a private/public partnership to develop a dry boat stack facility on other sites in the municipality.
4. Did the Department of Lands through the Minister, his office, or Department officers have discussions with Ariadne Australia Ltd as to the availability of the Westport Park Crown Land for potential development prior to Ariadne Australia Ltd purchasing the Marina Business in September 2006.
5. Did the Department of Lands through the Minister, his office or Department officers have discussions with Ariadne Australia Ltd that an EOI process would be announced for the Crown Land adjacent to the Marina Business shortly after their purchase of the Marina Business.

## ASHINGTON D.A. PROPOSAL FOR DOUBLE BAY

Residents First Woollahra Councillors have pledged to vote against massive overdevelopment in Woollahra, they have pledged to protect our bays from mega marinas and our shopping villages from high rise like the proposed Ashington 3 tower development in Double Bay which has bypassed Woollahra Council and is now in hands of the NSW Planning Minister, Ms Kristina Keneally. 14, 12 and 10 storey towers do not belong in the leafy and sunny shopping village of Double Bay as they will create wind tunnels and shadow corridors; domino effect developments will result.

### QUESTIONS/STATEMENTS FOR THE PLANNING MINISTER MS KRISTINA KENEALLY:

1. The Ashington developers paid scant lip service to our residents with their community consultation which took place at a venue outside the Woollahra Municipality. We ask that proper consultation of the residents of Woollahra is sought in a more transparent way with meetings held in Double Bay at an appropriate venue where a model is actually produced by Ashington to show the residents the three tower proposal of 14, 12 and 10 storeys.
2. We ask that the proper authority, Woollahra Council, is handed back this development so that the proper processes can be addressed and proper assessment of the DA can be handled by our Council staff and Councillors.
3. The impact of the Ashington development will be felt by not only those neighbouring the development site but by over 15,000 residents who look over Double Bay. What steps are being taken to ensure that these residents are informed and that their voices can be heard?
4. Generally the public is feeling anger and frustration that the NSW State Government can interfere with the democratic right of residents to be informed about developments that will affect them directly. The new planning laws are unfair and undemocratic. Is the Minister aware of the underlying swell of anger in our communities?
5. Is the State Government aware of any donations that have been made by the Ashington Group to any affiliated group within the Woollahra area, be it political, business or community, which may lobby the government for a favourable decision on the development? Can the State Government ask that donations made by Ashington are disclosed to the public?

Statements and questions authorised by Geoff and Virginia Rundle, Registered and Public Officers, on behalf of Residents First Woollahra.

## **RIVERS SOS**

### **Protecting NSW River Systems from Mine Damage.**

- 1 How long before the NSW Government acts to protect the State's river systems and water resources by mandating a 1 Kilometre safety zone around them, to save them from ongoing damage from mining operations?**
- 2 Will the NSW Government act on the demand of Rivers SOS for a three-year moratorium on mining in Sydney's Drinking Water Catchment, to allow the research programme on subsidence impacts called for by the Sydney Catchment Authority?**
- 3 When will the NSW Government reform the flawed mining approvals process in order to allow for a) transparency and b) meaningful not token community consultation?**
- 4 Does the NSW Government agree that the appointment of mining experts employed or associated with mining corporations to Panels of Experts is a form of corruption, when these people are in a majority on any panel?**
- 5 Will the NSW Government agree to the full inclusion of DECC and its Minister in all decisions regarding mining and mining approvals, since the monopoly over decision-making exercised by the Minister for Primary Industries and the Minister for Planning has led to unbalanced decisions and to environmental destruction, as witnessed in river systems around NSW?**

## **ROUSE HILL HEIGHTS ACTION GROUP.**

### **Do Acreage Landowners Have Any Rights?**

- 1 Why should infrastructure costs be added to the price of new housing blocks? If everyone can use it, then everyone should pay.**
- 2 Why is land which may be affected by a 1 in 100,000 year flood still classified as “flood-prone”?**
- 3 Why does “Public Consultation” in NSW mean, “Tell us what you think, and then we’ll ignore your wishes”?**
- 4 Why does the presence of “endangered species” on acreage land immediately devalue that land- this encourages landowners to clear their land/ dispose of the animals. People should be rewarded for looking after the environment, not punished.**
- 5 Why won’t the NSW Government allow Councils to charge a different rate for acreage properties affected by abnormally high valuations?  
How can a retired person living on 5 acres in Rouse Hill, afford to pay \$5,000 a year in Council Rates?**
- 6 Why is the NSW Government trying to circumvent Just Terms Compensation by sleight of hand? They don’t change zonings, just change what can happen in a zone.**
- 7 Why aren’t Councils and local residents given a greater say in what happens in their area?**

**Colleen Abela (spokesperson) Phone Mob-: 0418-482-534.**

**patison11@bigpond.com**

## SAVE OUR SUBURBS

- Introduce an evidence-based planning system
- Ban developer donations
- Return planning powers to local councils
- Revoke all planning laws, instruments, and policies of forcing higher densities onto local communities
- Ensure all subordinate legislation and decisions are brought before State Parliament for public scrutiny and final approval and are not be used to over-ride local and regional planning matters.

Tony Recsei (spokesperson) Phone 02 9487 2061  
trecsei@bigpond.net.au

SAVE SANDON POINT ACTION GROUP  
MEDIA RELEASE FOR RALLY 19.10.08 - QUESTIONS  
TO PLANNING MINISTER

**Sandon Point Commission of Inquiry findings and recommendations provided a Strategic basis “to implement sustainable coastal planning principles [and] protect significant Aboriginal heritage values”. The Commissioners found these “significant inherent cultural, ecological and social values ... too important to be compromised by the level of development proposed” by Wollongong City Council and Stockland. (Planning Commissioners Cleland and Carleton COI Report to Minister Craig Knowles September 2003)**

1. Why did the NSW Planning Department choose to ignore the Findings and Recommendations of Sandon Point Commission of Inquiry to protect significant Aboriginal and natural heritage values? And why were the Offices of COI Commissioners and Heritage dismantled and absorbed into the Planning Department?
2. Why did the Planning Department make a deliberate decision to sabotage the COI, making the community wait two years while Planning Ministers Knowles, then Sartor, introduced Part 3A legislation to overrule the Sandon Point Commission of Inquiry?
3. Who made the deliberate decision to remove from Part 3A the Objects of the EP&A Act, the legal right of Objectors to LEC merit appeals, the Heritage Act provisions, and the civil right of communities to be meaningfully engaged in consultation? And who decided to benefit developers and subdividers contrary to the public interest?
4. Will Minister Keneally now "*conscientiously address the principles of ESD... to take into account the public interest*"? (P63 of Supreme Court judgment at Sandon Point, CA 40893/07).
5. Will Minister Keneally now repeal Part 3A and other recent amendments to the EP&A Act 1979 to re-instate its primary Objects? Will she restore LEC merit appeal Objections to major infrastructure development consents? And will the minister restore the civil rights of community consultation and objections in the public interest?

Contact Jill Merrin (Spokeswoman)

Mobile: 0422 655 711 Email: [jillm@healthyillawarra.org.au](mailto:jillm@healthyillawarra.org.au)

## **SAVE THE HIGHLANDS**

### **When must public interest take precedence over private profit?**

Intelligently addressing this fundamental question is perhaps the most critical socio-political imperative of our times. It is not unrealistic to argue that the survival of the human race may be determined by our capacity to recognise and address this challenge, and its ensuing questions.

- What is the nature of human profit?
- How do we measure, weigh and value said profit?
- What is the real probable net gain and net loss from human endeavour?

Contact: Lee Coulson

Email: [coulson@savethehighlands.net](mailto:coulson@savethehighlands.net)

## **TATHRA ACTION GROUP (TAG)**

We are a group of citizens of Tathra on the far south coast of NSW, who are concerned about the effects on the village and the Bega River Estuary of a proposed development of about 300 dwellings on a peninsula overlooking the Bega River Estuary.

Five questions for the Planning Minister:

1. Are you aware that the Bega River estuary is an intermittently closed and open estuary, and thus prone to being heavily affected by big events such as heavy rainfall with stormwater runoff, and is very prone to the effects of climate change?
2. How can the developer (Canberra Investment Corporation) say Tathra's economy needs a big development, when it is obvious that the economic lifeblood of Tathra is tourism, and the effects of the development could well undercut tourism?
3. Are you aware of the many indicators of community opinion against the development, including a petition with about 2600 signatures opposing the development that we have tabled with the NSW state legislature?
4. Are you aware that there are many houses in Tathra that have been for sale for many months or years, thus disproving any claim of an immediate demand for housing in the area?
5. Does overwhelming community opinion mean anything to you and your government? (This question is not specific to our cause, but to the overall cause of fighting overdevelopment that is being pushed through just because the developers have the money and power.)

Dan Katz  
02-6494-5887  
dankatz83@hotmail.com

## **UPPER HUNTER LANDSCAPE GUARDIANS Inc.**

### **Kyoto Energy Park (47 Wind Turbines) – Scone NSW.**

- 1 Why ruin hills around Scone, some of which are zoned as Scenic Protection, when the wind farm could be built on already cleared land near the Bayswater/Liddell Power Station and close to required electricity infrastructure?**
- 2 Why is it proposed to allow turbines to be constructed within 1 km - 2.5 km of residences when global studies have recommended setbacks of 3 – 5 km in hilly, mountainous terrain such as ours for health and safety reasons?**
- 3 The overall height of the turbines and towers will be 130m – 150m therefore requiring CASA lighting in the current tranquil hills affecting fauna and neighbours. If these turbines get the approval to go ahead why can't they be under 110m thus negating the need for lighting?**
- 4 Issues relating to visual amenity, noise flora and fauna should be addressed with real intent, not just token gestures. People should be compensated for property devaluation. Why is this not happening and why are all States and Territories not bound by the same standards?**
- 5 The area selected is subject to bush fires, including from lightening strikes. The turbines hold between 200-400 litres of oil and based on reports from Australia and overseas turbine fires are not uncommon and are difficult to fight and contain. Why increase the risk and allow them to be built in a fire prone area and adjoining a national park?**

**Carmelle Lymbery (President) 02 6545 2769. Gordon Halliday (Vice-President)**

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**Wrought Artworks – The Operators Of The Heritage  
Blacksmithing Bays At The Eveleigh Locomotive  
Workshop, Redfern.**

*When the great railway workshops closed in 1988 the Government said it would honor the heritage of the site by having the collection of machinery operable and trade skills preserved.*

Q1; Why is it that the two self-funding tradition trade groups left on this large heritage site, Wrought Artworks and the Volunteers of 3801, been threatened with eviction?

Q2: Why did the Government feel that by putting the blacksmithing operation under the duress of an eviction it could impose such high, above commercial, rental increases on the blacksmithing operation, (5% per annum with a further 20% capped increase every 4 years)? With this commercially driven attitude the perpetuity of the operating blacksmithing workshop is unlikely.

Q3: Why has the Government allowed Railcorp to seize carriages and the 3801 Engine conserved by volunteers of 3801 Ltd only to leave them in the elements in Thurlmere to deteriorate once again?

Q4: Why was a \$300,000 heritage grant given by the Government in 1997 to the Australian Technology Park not used for the intended purpose of making machinery operable and young people trained in its conservation?

Q5: Why is the government not supporting and recognizing the value of the trade skilling and volunteer labour and not making more of the 'active' heritage of the former magnificent railway workshops of Eveleigh?

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