

Press Release

Local business and family man, Greg Petty announces candidature, and is supported by John Hatton.

Helensburgh resident and small businessman, Greg Petty is today announcing he will stand as an Independent candidate for the Heathcote electorate at the NSW State Election in March 2011.

Greg says, “I look forward to representing the whole community, from Loftus to Bulli. At last residents in the electorate have a candidate prepared to represent the community, environment and small business with a commitment to full open transparency, honesty and altruistic goals.”

Greg’s priorities include:

- * Protecting the Royal National Park, its catchment and the surrounding environment
- * Protecting the Sydney Water Catchment area and the surrounding environment, including the Woronora Dam, and Illawarra escarpment
- * To campaign against the Coal Seam Gas (methane) mining and power station - technology that is already showing irreversible environmental and human health impacts
- * Continue to fight Wollongong City Council’s 7d land review to maintain the previous high environmental standards placed on the area
- * To represent “Heathcote” in an open and unbiased way, free of party politics, by signing a set of principles of integrity, honesty and accountability in performance of duties

Greg Petty is an accountant and company secretary, aged 56, who operates a business in the Wollongong area. He has owned and operated businesses successfully for almost 30 years, and has employed over 50 staff.

He has lived in Helensburgh with his family for over ten years, and in the Sutherland Shire for 46 years.

He is currently Public Officer of Otford Protection Society, a member of the Walker Street NSWFB Community Fire Unit and Director of the Roadmarking Industry Association of Australia.

Greg has shown a commitment to the community and its amenity by campaigning to prevent the loss of environmental standards in the 7d land rezoning issue.

He established the recent e-submission webform that achieved over 18,200 submissions to Wollongong City Council.

He drafted the first community group application [Planning Proposal](#) to the Planning Minister. He is dismayed the proposal was blocked on the grounds it would 'set a precedent'. Greg says, "Developers have the ear of government, the community has no say."

Pauline Lacelles-Smith, convener of Neighbourhood Forum 1, applauds Greg's decision to stand. "I would be very pleased to have Greg represent me and this area in State Parliament. Not being a member of any political party before means he can be free to make decisions based on merit".

Greg has support from the legendary corruption fighter, John Hatton. He promises to make decisions based on genuine engagement with the community, and on research and evidence. He is self-funded, and is not accepting campaign donations which he says, 'taint the decisions politicians make.'

Greg was inspired to run after attending the John Hatton forums in Wollongong that promote integrity in government decision making.

"I am blown away that a statesman of John's high community standing would ask me to consider joining a new network of independent members of parliament that stand for integrity," Greg says.

Greg is available for interview: contact: (0407) 473 889

More information: www.gregpetty.com.au