



14<sup>th</sup> February 2011

The General Manager  
Wollongong City Council  
Locked Bag 8821  
WOLLONGONG NSW 2500

Attention: Director Planning - Mr. Andrew Carfield

Dear Director Planning

Subject: **7d Land Review and others**

I would like to represent some community views to Council and seek your response.

#### **7d Land Review - Submissions**

There is a concern that all submissions have NOT been receipted within Council's electronic system and therefore may not be included in the final report.

I have attached a CD covering **18,521 submissions** covering **20,744 pages**. Your assurance all submissions will be included in the final report would be appreciated.

#### **7d Land Review – 1994 Helensburgh COI re Studies**

There is a significant concern that the environmental studies recommended by the 1994 Helensburgh COI will NOT be undertaken.

The current review is predicated on desktop studies, limited area analysis, out of area data, etc to justify progressing the review.

Clearly these are flawed criteria and a COI has greater authority than a desktop review!

And with the E3 zoning, land development is happening without proper regard to the decision of the COI.

Is Council saying it has greater authority and atomony than a COI?

Has Department of Planning – Southern Region Director requested Council undertake further studies recommended by the 1994 Helensburgh COI?

Has Department of Planning – Southern Region Director requested a meeting between Council and Otford Protection Society Incorporated to discuss the groups Planning Proposal over these lands?

Will Council provide a list and map of all drains, bores, springs, creeks and rivers in the 7d land review area?

### **7d Land Review – Coal Seam Gas (Methane) Mining and Power Station**

The Willana Study and Preliminary Report are BOTH devoid of any mention of Coal Seam Gas (Methane) Mining and Power Station.

As documents and maps now show such planned activity, why has there been no mention of these in either the Willana Study or Preliminary Report?

When did Council first become aware of Coal Seam Gas (Methane) Mining and Power Station?

Who advised Council?

Why did Council believe it not necessary to include the Coal Seam Gas (Methane) Mining and Power Station in the Willana Study and/or Preliminary Report?

### **RailCorp Fencing Engadine to Coledale**

Reports in the St. George Leader (January 20, 2011) indicate efforts to connect The Royal National Park with Illawarra Escarpment and Dhawarral SCA with a green corridor, but is frustrated by the type and size of the fencing used?

Will Council please forward all correspondence between RailCorp and Council from the initial upgrading plans (2006) to present?

### **Acquisitions of Private Lands for incorporation into Royal National Park**

Recently 82 hectares of private land was purchased by National Parks and Wildlife Service (with assistance by Department of Environment, Climate Change and Water) for incorporation into Royal National Park.

Have there been any meetings, discussions, plans, talks, ideas about land corridors, land acquisitions, land swaps and considerations to create green corridors or additions to The Royal National Park, Illawarra Escarpment and Dhawarral.

Has NPWS and/or representatives for private lands, meet together or individually with Council in the last 12 months?

### **Land Clearing and increased truck movements**

Community members are concerned some old 7d lands are being damaged thereby denuding the land of its E2 quality to a weaker E3 “as cleared” state.

The community understood that making 7D land E3 in the Wollongong LEP 2009 was an **interim** measure only until further studies had been undertaken, and as E3, would not allow development to progress, whilst the review was in progress. Reports of illegal land clearing and developments on E3 lands is significantly reducing the character of the area never envisaged by the old 7d zoning nor would have never been contemplated by previous development consent processes.

How many reports have been made of illegal land clearing in the period 1 January, 2010 to 20 January, 2011?

How many developments have been made of old 7D lands under the new E3 zoning since adoption of E3 zoning?

I look forward to a prompt reply.

Warmest regards

Greg Petty

Independent Candidate for Heathcote

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