



HAWKS NEST – TEA GARDENS PROGRESS ASSOCIATION INC.

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Joanna Bakopanos
Industry Assessments
Dept of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Ms Bakopanos

Subject: Marine Finfish Research and Commercial Aquaculture, Providence Bay, Hawks Nest.

I refer to your undated letter (your ref: SSI 5118 MOD 1, DA 81-04-01 MOD 3) in which you advised this Association of the proposal to modify two development approvals for aquaculture farming offshore from Hawks Nest.

This matter was discussed at length at the last meeting of the Progress Association. Unfortunately, the proposed aquaculture development will not have any appreciable benefit for the Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens communities. Concern was expressed by Progress Association members that our beaches are likely to be detrimentally affected if the science involved with this development is found to be unreliable and the lease site is punctured and/or the waste products are pushed onto Bennetts Beach by the prevailing currents.

Accordingly, the Association is of the strong belief that the proposed farming facility should be located south of Port Stephens where it will not potentially ruin the beaches of Hawks Nest and the Great Lakes Council area. As the townships in the Port Stephens Council area will be the economic beneficiaries from this venture, it's only fair that they should have to face the environmental consequences that may be caused in an unforeseen catastrophe associated with the venture.

If approval is given to the aquaculture farm in its proposed location offshore from Hawks Nest, the Association strongly advises that the tourism related businesses in Hawks Nest and Tea Gardens be recompensed on the basis that any future failure of the lease may detrimentally affect the local environment and potentially adversely affect their businesses.

Yours sincerely

Trevor Jennings
President / Secretary

