

Andrew Hartcher - Fwd: SUBMISSION - DEMOLITION OF STACK - PORT KEMBLA

From: Chris Ritchie
To: Andrew Hartcher
Date: 31/10/2013 4:10 PM
Subject: Fwd: SUBMISSION - DEMOLITION OF STACK - PORT KEMBLA

>>> Peggy Stransky <belstar7@bigpond.com> 31/10/2013 2:51 PM >>>

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31 October 2013

Chris Ritchie
 MAJOR PROJECT ASSESSMENT

MP 08 0191 - MANAGEMENT PLANS - PK STACK DEMOLITION**Notice to Residents of demolition**

Firstly may I point out that residents were not given the three months statutory notice of demolition as required under the Conditions of Consent. As just one example of how the short notice given has caused expense and inconvenience, I myself had a planned visit to my Grandson in Queensland which I had to cut short once the demolition date of 6 September was announced. I re-booked my return flight for the 5 September in order to arrive home the day before the demolition. My original flight home for Tuesday 10 September was non-redeemable so that fare was lost.

You can imagine my chagrin when the date was then flippantly moved to Thursday 5th instead without any explanation and I faced the prospect of foregoing yet another fare. Fortunately I decided to wait it out to see if there were to be any further changes because of the unreliable nature of what I considered to be an important issue. The "why worry anyway" attitude of Ian Wilson demonstrated his failure to recognise just how concerned residents are about the prospect of 14,000 tonnes of material hitting the ground and the resultant cloud of toxic dust.

Public Meeting

The 'Public Meeting' held at the Port Kembla Community was a complete fiasco and the most unprofessional meeting I have ever attended. You will have been given knowledge of the happenings at this meeting by others so I won't go into detail.

Port Kembla Copper

This company has never been a welcome neighbour in Port Kembla and their cavalier attitude towards its residents has been shown time and time again. The relocation of the school because of the smelter was in fact a plus for the students who were afforded an attractive new facility, but the eventual dilapidation and eventual sale of the heritage listed school, which rightfully belonged to the people, can only bring shame on the Labor Government and Bob Carr, the then Premier. Residents were abhorred that a school whose ex-students fought in World War II, some of whom were subjected to terrible deaths at the hands of the Japanese, now discovered that the school was owned by the Japanese. The school fell into further dilapidation and eventually was burnt down by vandals.

The Stack

Residents have been grossly misinformed about the structural safety aspects of the stack and many people feel that it is part of our industrial heritage and should be preserved. The efforts of the Stack 360 consortium has merit but has been thwarted by the actions of others and I believe the Lord Mayor mentioned the imposing of a \$2m bond on the project before any approval could be given. In fact some of

the "interference" could possibly be a case for investigation by ICAC.

The Project

We were pleased that Mr Brad Hazzard agreed to a delegation to put the true position of the project thus causing the postponement of the demolition. I believe he assured us that some CLG and/or PKPM representatives would be invited to attend the Working Group Meetings which evolved, but this did not happen. Many of the anomalies of the arrangements for the demolition day have arisen but the major concern are vibrations and dust. The dust cloud cannot possibly be contained within the site and could hang around for days.

Dilapidation Reports

These reports have been offered to those within the exclusion zone which has now been extended, as Ian Wilson was not aware of the Australian Standard which requires it to be one and a half times the height of the stack. However I was informed by WorkCover that a register would be available at the 'Public Meeting' for any resident wishing to register but there was in fact no such register at the meeting. My own home is 105 years old and on small brick pylons. There has not been written assurances of "make good" for any ensuing damage and with the company being 'tiered' the way it is we don't know who would be responsible for any restoration costs.

Conclusion

I believe that an appropriate public meeting should be held with all authorities in attendance and in a suitable venue which can accommodate all residents. The very manner in which the entire stack demolition project has been handled leaves a vote of no confidence and it has been left to the residents to be the guiding light of what is really required for such a major project.

We assume that once the Shopfront period is over we will be given the required **three** months notice for the demolition.

Yours faithfully
Peggy Stransky.