

17 October 2023

Jeffrey Peng
NSW Department of Planning and Environment
jeffrey.peng@dpie.nsw.gov.au

Dear Mr Peng,

Objection to proposed modification 3 of Emirates One & Only Resort, Wolgan Valley (MP06_0310)

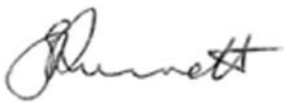
The National Parks Association of NSW (NPA) wishes to register our strong objection to the proposed modification to the number of permitted helicopter flights into the Emirates Resort

The application continues a clear pattern of escalating intensity of use and environmental impact associated with the resort, far beyond the firm commitments that the operator made to secure the original development approval. The stark gap between the original maximum of 4 helicopter flights per week to the proposed 30 per day illustrates the increasing impact on the Gardens of Stone SCA and surrounds. This escalation allows little confidence that any approved increase would truly be of a temporary nature.

NPA has been provided with a copy of Wilderness Australia's detailed submission on this proposal, which focuses on the adverse impacts on the adjoining parks. We note in particular their description of the proponent's failure to complete agreed land transfers, and the total incongruity of the proposal with the NSW Government's plans to invest tens of millions of dollars of public funding into establishing the Gardens of Stone State Conservation Area as a high profile visitor destination. NPA endorses the Wilderness Australia submission in full.

If you have any questions on these matters, please contact Gary Dunnett at garyd@npansw.org.au.

Yours sincerely,



Gary Dunnett
Chief Executive Officer
National Parks Association of NSW
protecting nature through community action