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North Nowra NSW 2541

22<sup>nd</sup> February 2021

Attn: Patrick Copas

Re: West Culburra Concept Proposal SSD 3846

I am emailing today to voice my opposition to the above proposal.

Have those in power really learnt anything from the bushfires that raged through the Shoalhaven and across our country?

We have a new hospital concept denied by different levels of government which would provide a more centralised location and better services yet at the same the Shoalhaven is under attack by over-development and numerous applications in progress for one way in one way out towns that don't have adequate infrastructure and services.

The concept proposal for the West Culburra development is a true representation of such, with environmental and safety issues surrounding this proposal and increase of population with current infrastructure concerning many residents. This development would include 244 low density residential lots with the possibility of 293 dwellings.

A one way in, one way out community with single road access, saw the 2019-20 bushfires come within 9km of the town centre of Culburra Beach. With added population and no upgrade to roads, safe evacuation from Culburra would be highly questionable if recent events were repeated and would potentially put more lives at risk.

Many environmental issues arise from the development proposal, located between Lake Wollumboola and the Crookhaven River requiring over forty hectares of Currumbene Lowland Coastal Forest to be cleared, a habitat corridor which extends west to the Shoalhaven escarpment and north to the Crookhaven River Wetlands.

This is habitat for threatened bird specials such as the Powerful Owl and Black Cockatoo as well as many other native flora and fauna species. Lake Wollumboola is

home to internationally significant birdlife and increased stress on local environment and ecosystems could have major impact.

Mangroves play an important part amongst the Coastal Wetlands, and environmental damage along the river could cause issues with water quality, having a roll-on effect to the oyster and fishing industries.

Importantly, this area has Indigenous significance, and Aboriginal midderns along the Crookhaven River shoreline recognised as regionally significant Aboriginal heritage would be damaged or destroyed during construction.

In some areas of the Shoalhaven, after losing so much bushland from bushfire a majority has only just begun to repair, with some still standing in an eery silence, still like it was a year ago - however we are constantly fighting to save the little that's left against developers and logging.

Not only is this destroying our necessary ecosystems and the little refuge that remains for our wildlife, but the more you chop and more you log, the more intense bushfires can become in the future.

We need to think about the future and not just the 'now'. Economics based on greed and environmental destruction only works until there's nothing left to take, or the planets passed its tipping point.

When will community need become more important than money and developer greed and when will resident's safety and required infrastructure be considered before approving developments on a large scale?

I say **"No"** to this proposal.

Yours in hope and peace,

[Redacted Signature]

[Redacted Address]