

The Director
Industry Assessments Department of
Planning, Industry and Environment
Locked Bag 5022
Parramatta NSW 2124

Objection and comments West Culburra Concept Proposal – SSD 3846

The idea of removing natural native old age forest from a sensitive coastal environment near mangroves and the Crookhaven River would be a breach of legislation made to protect the environment under coastal management guidelines and legislation. This is apparent in statements made under the legislation. Effective management begins with squashing such proposals.

1/ Removal of native old age forests is a breach of law

2/ Unnecessary and unmitigated harm to wildlife, loss of their habitats, ineffective management of pollution controls and levels due to lack of resources and basic care plans (that come with land development and post development from overpopulated housing and pollution levels).

3/ This places responsibility onto local council to manage the area effectively with which resources, funding and budgeting would not account for management of the environment adequately to properly protect it under legislation and council planning priorities.

4/ Developer groups should show respect for the law, legislation, the courts time and the rights of residents, people in general (the public) and local council in regard to what we would like to see happen for the environment

5/ There is evidence of Aboriginal Heritage sites dotted throughout Culburra Beach North and West areas. There have also been aboriginal tools found recently through extensive surveys being conducted near wetlands in the Lake Wollumboola catchment at Culburra Beach. This points to evidence based theory that there will be substantial aboriginal heritage sites and tools buried along the coastal land of the Wollumboola and Crookhaven River catchments, disturbance or removal of these sites or tools will be also a breach of legislation and heritage regulations. If anything, the management of this land area should immediately be protected under Heritage Listings legislation, Coastal Land and Sensitive Coastal Land ACTs to protect the heritage rights of aboriginals and The Jerrinja community. If Surveys are done, they should be executed delicately and with great care, acknowledged, digitally scanned, recorded and not disturbed or moved from the site.

6/ Decimation of vast hectares of forest especially native old age forest black butt forest and other species of old age trees is not inline with current global treaties to reduce

✓

carbon emissions. Removing vast amounts clearing or burning forests will contribute to high levels of carbon emissions into the atmosphere increasing global warming effects and further diminishing parts of ecosystems that protect human life. There are other numerous current land housing development projects available in the Shoalhaven Region that DON'T remove forests and native brush and grasses and will support peoples needs and new housing opportunities.

7/ Retaining wider coastal land as buffer zones to protect the atmosphere, reduce carbon emissions, contribute to the management of coastal lands and clean air, water ways and major aquatic industries and small businesses like oyster farms in the Crookhaven River, Reducing use of steel, cements, tars and bitumen the mainstay use in the construction industry that utilises the very industries that contribute to carbon emissions.

8/ Preserving and enhancing coastal land as Open Green Spaces (especially tree canopies) will contribute to better mental health. [The Halloran Trust, (Research)), University of Sydney - drawing on their recent research data and discussions in open public forums, Open Green Spaces are beneficial for better mental health especially for children who live among open green spaces. It allows us to relax and unwind, especially spaces with tree canopies, and in a time of current health alerts, social distancing and in isolation

9/The United Nations have 'Decade of Action' programmes [2020 – 2030] that includes programmes to support the Restoration of Ecosystems across the globe. This supports global constitutions and treaties that recognise the importance of protecting biodiverse ecosystems and restoring ecosystems for communities and in contributing to healthier systems and people who rely on them. Australia's current government support treaties to reduce overall carbon emissions.

10/ Forest trees and under brush are both very important natural landscape flora materials that support the land and soils, catch water and distribute water evenly and widely through their roots systems and keeps the surrounding area and surfaces cool, keeps root systems in tact. Underbrush shrubs and grasses are so very important to retain soil and water tables and keep the land and soil from erosion. This helps to prevent flooding over land surfaces such as road floods or flash flooding.

11/ the 'Character' of the west culburra proposed idea is out of touch in keeping with the current character and coastal relaxed lifestyle in planning priorities of local Shoalhaven council's LSPS sections 10, 14 and 15. It does not conform to it. The design is in breach of what would be expected for smaller or isolated developments within the current town planning. The housing structure is designed for larger scaled city designs and not suitable for this area of sensitive coastal land, or the character and principles that are contained in keeping with minor infrastructure for the existing town and a 'relaxed coastal lifestyle'. This proposal is for overly large-scaled housing upon land which will be over development and ugly urban tower of housing instead of picturesque trees and forests and glimpses of water views through trees as people near and enter into Culburra.

12/ **The land as it currently mirrors the opposite side of Culburra Road and Jervis Bay National Park forest** – Large high rise builds would diminish the overall connection to forests; Forests that importantly contribute to wildlife corridors for wild parrots and wrens and for marsupials who dare to cross the current road using it by night in their usual habitats for foraging for food sources and grazing upon grassy areas, drinking from fresh water sources. These include wombats, wallabies, eastern grey kangaroos, sugar gliders, long nosed bandicoots, ring tail possums, brushtail possums, other unrecorded or unobserved marsupial habitation. Removal of native marsupials will result in shock and most of them are unlikely to recover removal from their natural habitats. Powerful owls and BooBook Owls are inhabitant on the coastal land and Jervis Bay National park forests and Culburra Beach coastal reserves.

13/ **No Development in the Crookhaven River Catchment of west culburra would prove more beneficial for the existing people population and introducing minor infrastructure within the immediate town of Culburra Beach.** (*Focusing on small acceptable businesses for the existing town*) The development idea for west culburra does not create jobs as so avidly put with promotional buzz words through developer action; It would remove work opportunity for local residents as most developer companies already have their people employed and in place to work on these projects so it does not contribute to local economic growth for the town. The larger percentage of work is outside the local town of Culburra Beach. New proposed 'population growth' would find need for those people to travel longer distances for work opportunities, Wollongong and Sydney, and to the nearest CBD hub being Nowra (25 minute drive).

14/ It would place a greater strain upon proposed residents; a greater strain on already overstretched budget plans and services suitable for the current infrastructure and housing at Culburra Beach; Greater competitiveness for employment opportunities in the local town and creating higher unemployment rates for Culburra Beach under the present liberal government. Not a good statistic for a census or the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS).

15/ Over 600 dwellings would equal car use likely to increase with 2 to 2.5 cars per household - doubling or tripling car use within the local and immediate vicinity; causing a change to air quality and pollution levels, adding to traffic congestion to main thoroughfares into and out of Culburra Beach and creating more toxic fumes. And decreasing air quality. Trucks and heavy machine use would place great strain upon roads surfaces (meaning an increase for road repairs and maintenance); and years of noise, mess and traffic congestion.

16/ Heavier **traffic conditions increases the chance of harm to our Australian native wildlife and probable reduction in numbers of wildlife species on the Shoalhaven listed protected native species and endangered species within the Shoalhaven region and NSW state.** **Glossy Black Cockatoos** and **Yellow tailed Black Cockatoos** both NSW listed species and Glossy Blacks currently listed as vulnerable in NSW, inhabit the forests either side of Culburra Road in Jervis bay national parks and coastal Crookhaven River catchment forest. Loss of forests and tall trees would diminish their habitats greatly and

lose the connection for a wildlife passage placing extra strain upon breeding habitats, nesting, healthy eggs and raising healthy chicks, and it would remove and diminish current attainable and accessible food sources. This is a breach under NSW legislation *Biodiversity and Conservation ACT 2016*. Wild birds, Cockatoos need their habitats to survive. Developers should be made aware of this fact when communicating with town planners and government planning bodies; Plus it would be distressing for the local community and not contributing to better mental health but reducing it. This would be the Governments responsibility to uphold and retain strategies in managing better health within the community, better mental health especially during current health alerts, greater protection for sensitive coastal lands management under legislative ACTS and greater protection for native wildlife under commonwealth and state laws. Unmitigated harm, by developer action, to native wildlife would be direct breach of legislation under the Biodiversity and Conservation ACT 2016. Removal of native wildlife also is in breach as removal leads to shock and non-recovery especially for marsupials. I am sure no person - developer, residents, or people from departments involved in decision-making, in awareness, would want this to occur.

17/ The location is near protected Mangroves, River catchments and Lake Wollumboola catchment – Sensitive Coastal Land areas. The coast and endangered ecological communities (bird life, migratory and endangered species) being sensitive to pollution would suffer the effects and be in decline immediately from any development in this proposed land location; Any removal of old age forest breaches legislation. A large component of the community object to the proposal for many valid reasons and through expert knowledge and with science-based studies.

There are many reasons not to develop the land or build upon it. It is up to the present government and governing bodies to enforce these reason as rules. Appeals to the courts with appeal in opposition to the current proposal being an unsuitable project for the area of Culburra Beach and reasonable effort to place a kibosh on the west culburra proposal.. **It is an unsuitable project in keeping with the character of the town; An unsuitable project in reducing carbon emissions and keeping the air pollution levels low and suitable for human life; Unsuitable project for the ongoing protection of native wildlife in their natural habitats and their protection under NSW and Commonwealth Governments; An unstable project because it reduces the land buffer zones and would devastate the waterways with high levels of urban based and petroleum based pollution and remove valuable old age forests that protect from flooding and soil erosion in the Crookhaven River and Wollumboola catchments. Please don't allow any approval for this land to be developed. There is strong objection to it. There can be valid appeals made to the LEC now. There is a responsibility of governing bodies to assist in protecting the land and its many qualities and the current socioeconomics for Culburra Beach residents and current communities.**

 Resident, Culburra Beach NSW

[with due respect, name/s have been removed due to privacy reasons]