

Shoalhaven Oyster Service
Brian & Barry Allen
[REDACTED]
Greenwell Point 2540, NSW.

APPLICATION NUMBER: SSD-3846
RE: OBJECTION TO WEST CULBURRA DEVELOPMENT

As oyster farmers in the Crookhaven & Shoalhaven River Estuary we object to the proposed West Culburra development.

The industry is regulated by DPI NSW Fisheries and NSW Food Authority, we strongly believe the proposed development would cause water quality issues for our estuary which we rely on.

The development of the proposed land will see a significant increase of urban run off & underground water entering the water way. Our main concern is the increase in the number of closure days after rain events. In 2020 Curley's Bay had 81 days of closure a 28 day increase compared to 2019, Crookhaven River had 98 days of closure an increase of 38 days compared to 2019. We can only expect closures to increase, if this development was to go ahead.

After rain events significant amounts of fresh water remain in the river, which can prolong the closure period for harvesting and can cause mortality of the oysters. It can often take from several days up to three months to regain water quality in these areas for harvesting.

The oyster industry is heavily reliant on the environment, we have seen over the years the affect of climate change. The ever so changing weather patterns, increase period of warmer waters, significant increase of invasive oyster species, reduced harvest of wild caught Sydney Rock Oysters.

The NSW Oyster Industry Sustainable Aquaculture Strategy states two of the following in its objectives:

- Identifies the key water quality parameters necessary for sustainable oyster aquaculture and establishes a mechanism to maintain and where possible improve the environmental conditions required for sustainable oyster production; and,
- Ensures that the water quality requirements for oyster growing are considered in the State's land and water management and strategic planning framework.

We believe this development will have a negative impact on oyster farming on the Crookhaven & Shoalhaven River and it's harvesting areas. For this reason we object to the West Culburra Development.

Yours Sincerely

Brian & Barry Allen

