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25th November 2013

Development Assessment Systems and Approvals
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Director, Industry, Social Projects and Key Sites

Re: Proposed Northern Beaches Hospital at Frenchs Forest, SSI 5982

I wish to object to the currently proposed Northern Beaches Hospital at Frenchs Forest.

My primary reasons for objecting to this proposal are that I believe the development would have multiple adverse environmental impacts and would, for example:-

- Destroy the significant environmental features and high wildlife habitat values of this important bushland site.
- Cause irreparable damage to the protected Duffy's Forest Ecological Community, endangered fauna and flora.
- Destroy and block the important wildlife corridor through this bushland.
- Require extensive and damaging excavation and disturbance.
- Reduce the extent of the remaining bushland in this area.
- Adversely impact on the nearby bushland areas.
- Adversely impact on the drainage to nearby creeks flowing into Middle Creek and Narrabeen Lagoon.
- Have an adverse visual impact on the area.
- Be contrary to previous agreements such as IDO 51 aimed at protecting Narrabeen Lagoon and its catchment.

I also believe that

- The location is inappropriate and will cause major traffic disruption.
- Road access will be unreliable due to flooding and traffic congestion.
- In the long term, the site is too small for a major hospital.
- Alternative locations, including the sites of the current Manly and Mona Vale Hospitals, are more suitable and would have less adverse impacts.
- The proposed biodiversity offset strategy is totally inadequate and will not protect endangered species or the wildlife corridors.
- The proposed predominance of private beds and facilities would result in a deterioration of health services for public patients.

I request that you reject this proposal and any similar ones.

Yours Sincerely

Ken Higgs