

Michelle Cramsie - Submission on Hilltop gun range

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Date: 15/07/2011 1:47 PM
Subject: Submission on Hilltop gun range

15 July 2011

**Submission to
Modification 4 MP-0232**
 Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex

Dear Planning Department,

I am a regular user of the State Conservation area and National Parks in the Thirlmere and Hilltop areas. I work in Local Government in the area and sit on relevant Committees relating to the conservation of natural environments eg Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Committee Advisory Committee and the Hawkesbury Nepean Catchment Management Authority Community Reference Group for the Warragamba Landscape . Over the past year I have personally questioned the decision to place a shooting range in such a beautiful and natural area. I have watched with interest the apparent “arrangements” and “deals” being done between Government and the Shooters Party and SSA to get this range approved. I think that these deals have flawed the consent process. I write to object to the move to lessen the gun noise level restrictions at the Hill Top firing range and the impact of those on the surrounding National Park lands.

There have been moves to raise even higher the upper decibel limit of the gun noise and average it so noise recorded as what people will have to tolerate can be much larger than 85 but be reduced to be 85 and appear compliant with some new method and noise level proposed! I OBJECT.

Homes within 2000 metres and at the site itself, which is within 5 metres of Blue Mountain World Heritage, Nattai National Park, Bargo State Conservation Area and Bargo River State Conservation Area not only residents but bushwalkers, horse riders, birdwatchers and nature lovers. My peaceful enjoyment of those national parks areas will be severely disturbed, and I will be distressed and impacted by the gunshot noise levels they seek to say will be acceptable.

Even the Sporting Shooters Association of Australia's consultant has measured the gun noise at the NPWS lands at 110dbL already with just one gun firing !. - This is dangerous to human hearing - imagine that coming from 200 guns every weekend!. The application should be rejected due to the distressing and unreasonable imposition of dangerous gun noise levels on the surrounding national parks users and residents such as myself.

The tolerable noise level should remain at no more than 75 decibels outright.

Thank you

Brad Staggs
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