

Michelle Cramsie - Major Project (06_232) for Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex, Hill Top.

From: "Tony Hill" <tkhill@activ8.net.au>
To: <michelle.cramsie@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 25/07/2011 11:36 AM
Subject: Major Project (06_232) for Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex, Hill Top.
CC: "Goward MP, Pru" <pru.goward@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

The Hon. Brad Hazzard MP,
Minister for Planning and Infrastructure,
GPO Box 39,
Sydney, NSW 2001.

25th July, 2011.

Dear Mr. Hazzard,

Re: Determination of Major Project (06_232) for Southern Highlands Regional Shooting Complex, Hill Top.

National Parks Association Southern Highlands objects to the proposals to allow increased noise levels associated with the Regional Shooting Range and Hilltop because it would further disturb and degrade the lives of locally resident native animals, it would discourage migration of fauna through this important wildlife corridor, it would further impose on other recreational users, and it would devalue the lives and properties of local residents.

The regional shooting range is situated in an area of high conservation value with a number of threatened species, in an important biodiversity corridor and close to a World Heritage Area. Any decision to ease restrictions based on noise creation or any other activity must be based on verifiable information about the possible effects on the habitat value for local fauna as well as for interference with their migrations.

It appears that an increased noise limit of 85 dB would apply to the 800 metre range but that other ranges would still be limited to 75dB. This seems to be inconsistent and does not take into account the greatly increased use of the range by shooters.

National Parks Association is a non government voluntary organisation that promotes the importance and value of the natural environment. We opposed the establishment of the regional shooting range when it was excised from the Bargo State Conservation Area, and are concerned that this exceptional area of bushland will continue to be seriously degraded by progressive modifications to the consent conditions such as is proposed in this application.

I apologise for the lateness of this submission, but we were not aware of the above application until recently.

Your sincerely,

Tony Hill,
National Parks Association Southern Highlands.