

CHINDERAH DISTRICTS RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION INC.,

c/- 7 Walsh Street,
CHINDERAH.NSW 2487

Mr Joel Herbert,
Department of Planning.

Dear Mr Herbert,

As discussed in our telecom of 8 February, I wish to submit from the Chinderah Districts Residents Association Inc., our opposition to the proposal by Stephen Segal's Cudgen Lakes Sand Quarry Modification 2 proposal.

The members of my Association wish to notify the Department of our strong opposition to the proposal to extend the life span of the sand quarry operations from 2029 to 2047.

We have always opposed the practice of digging deep holes in the landscape to use the fill extracted to go fill a hole or low lying land elsewhere, when the Tweed River is choking on itself from the buildup of sand in its bed. Years ago the government of the day saw fit to grant 3 sand dredging licences to companies to extract sand from the river, for commercial purposes. Those licences are still operating today. This approved dredging also fulfilled a flood mitigation purpose. If the sand bars in the Tweed's bed were removed then the floodwaters had the potential to remain within the river channel proper and thus there would be reduced spillage of floodwaters onto the flood plain on which Chinderah is located. We were adversely affected by floodwaters in 2017, when on 31 March and 1 April flooding created by Cyclone Debbie had a devastating impact on our village. Past floods have also impacted our village.

I have lived at my given address, 63 Phillip Street, Chinderah since 30 September, 1978 and experienced all the floods which have occurred in that time, yet until last year's flood event, not one drop of water entered my garage which is at ground level. Other members on the village's south western wing suffered loss of vehicles, caravans, personal possessions and home inundation, which had not happened to them previously.

Mr Segal intends to fill the extensive lands he owns at West Kingscliff and the Cudgen foothills with the sand he is currently approved to extract, and our members are fearful of the impact this may have on future floods, for his lands occupy the flood path for floodwaters once the Tweed breaks its banks in flood time, at Stott's Island. and flow in an easterly direction across to the west Kingscliff area. If Mr Segal's land is permitted to be filled, the floodwaters which would normally find temporary flood storage on his land will be forced elsewhere and that elsewhere is Chinderah village.

So I repeat our belief that the government should be looking towards extending the lifespan of those dredging companies which had the foresight to apply for dredging licences in the 1980s and by doing so help to mitigate the flood effects when flooding does occur. To dig holes to go fill holes elsewhere when there is plenty of sand available in the Tweed river itself cannot be seen to be good practice.

Yours sincerely,

Felicia Cecil President

