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DPE CSE Information Planning Mailbox
Sydney Zoo - SSD 7228
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The proposed development is on land which the government, when announcing establishment of the Western Sydney Parklands, said was never to be developed.

The land upon which the Sydney Zoo is proposed to occupy is foraging area for a mob of Eastern Grey Kangaroos. Though the Sydney Zoo proponent says no Kangaroos were observed in the area of the proposed development such observation was limited in scope and, we are confident, excluded night observation. The Kangaroos are within the Bungarribee Precinct of Western Sydney Parklands and commonsense tells you that the proposed Sydney Zoo will diminish foraging area, will limit the area of safe habitation for the species and therefore threaten their existence.

We note, perhaps under pressure from government agencies, the proponent has removed the encroachment of the car park into River Flat Eucalypt Forest but there remains loss of Cumberland Plain Woodland and a contemptible abuse of community spirit by destroying an area of indigenous plantings undertaken by community volunteers with government approval about a decade ago.

The EIS inadequately addresses the impact of the proposed Sydney Zoo on the Australian Bass fish known to inhabit Eastern Creek within the Bungarribee Precinct of Western Sydney Parklands. This fish species is limited in Blacktown LGA. The fish were observed by this writer and some other members of our group in 2003 near the confluence of Bungarribee Creek and Eastern Creek. The fish were also observed only a few years ago near the confluence of Eastern Creek and Angus Creek as part of the EIS process for the Holcim Railway Siding development.

How will run-off from the proposed Sydney Zoo be prevented from entering Eastern Creek? How will the operators of Sydney Zoo clean animal enclosures of excrement and urine? Will it not be to hose the enclosures with water and the consequent contaminated water make its way into the storm water drains and flow therefore into Eastern Creek? Is this not a further and significant "nail in the coffin" of the population of Australian Bass fish known to have survived in Eastern Creek within Bungarribee Precinct of Western Sydney Parklands?

It is not clear to us and therefore no comfort to us or to any voluntary and paid workers trying to restore the indigenous vegetation along Eastern Creek, South Creek and the Hawkesbury River that the proponent will introduce species of grasses and plants which are not a risk of getting into Eastern Creek and become established downstream. The proponent's use of words such as "*preference*", "*preliminary*" and "*minimise*" give no certainty and the proposed Sydney Zoo is not excluded from being a hazard to the environment. As such, it is contrary to government policy, practice and expenditure along

the riparian zones of Eastern and South Creeks and the Hawkesbury River.

Again, how will the on site cleaning methods of the proposed Sydney Zoo prevent that which is noxious to riparian margins e.g. animal excrement, urine, unwanted plant seeds or other extraneous matter from getting into our waterways?

Blacktown & District Environment Group Inc maintains its opposition to the proposed Sydney Zoo in the Bungarribee Precinct of Western Sydney Parklands.

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