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### Submission

Re: SSI 5657, Commercial Shellfish Aquaculture Leases Jervis Bay, NSW

I oppose the proposed leases on the basis of the environmental risks posed to an unique area and the related degradation of an amenity enjoyed by locals and visitors from all parts of Australia and overseas.

I am not opposed to aquaculture generally. But Jervis Bay is of such special value that it should not to be put at risk by such developments.

I first visited Calalla Beach in the early 1950s as a young boy. I realised then the special value of Jervis Bay. Since then I have revisited the area many times, as have members of my family. Our large family still regularly come from different parts of Australia to gather together at Calalla Beach over Christmas and at other times of the year.

Effective protection of Jervis Bay is important to many, many Australians like us. It is an Australian treasure.

I believe the risks detailed in the EIS are unacceptable. I refer particularly to the EIS finding that there would be a moderate risk of biofouling, and that diseases, parasites and pests could be introduced. It is completely unacceptable that these materials and other waste from the proposed leases could find their way to such pristine beaches.

Also, the operation of the leases close to the residential areas of Calalla Beach and Vincentia will be a continuous and unwanted visual intrusion into the lives of residents and holidayers alike. Approval of the leases will have an economic price. Although hard to quantify, make no mistake, property values and visitor numbers will be adversely affected.

There are many other points I could make, such as the effect on marine life. In the interests of brevity I will leave this to others.

We have stewardship of a unique place. It is not a place for aquaculture leases. Just don't do it.

