

Jocelyn El-Hage  
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15<sup>th</sup> April, 2014

Attention: Director, Industry, Key Sites and Social Projects

Development Assessment Systems & Approvals

Planning & Infrastructure

GPO Box 39

SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Mr Hazzard

**Application Name:** Proposed Pindimar Abalone Farm

**Application #:** MP 10\_0006

**I object to the proposed Pindimar Abalone Farm.**

**Declaration re: political donations:** I declare that I have not made any political donations in the previous two years.

**Reasons why I object to the proposal:**

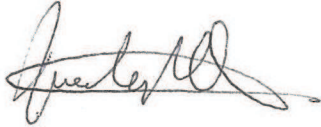
I am concerned about the danger of diseases arising from the proposed Pindimar Abalone Farm.

Intensive farms are incubators of diseases and a massive problem has already occurred in abalone farms in Victoria, causing widespread destruction to the industry (not just in the farm that cultivated the disease – but to the coastal wild abalone population).

The infective agent, ganglioneuritis virus has now spread from Victoria to Tasmania. NSW wild abalone have already been decimated by a parasite, Perkinsus. Some forms of bacteria also attack abalone and many diseases cannot be controlled. The proposal for the farm *recognises the grave dangers posed by infection*, but assures us that they will use extreme sterility practices and extensive decontamination. These labour intensive protocols and extremely expensive measures will need to be maintained throughout the life of the plant... but who will be responsible for ensuring these measures are met? Who will police their adherence? And what *irreversible* cost to our environment if these measures fail?

As we have only applicants word that these measures will be put in place, we object to this proposal as it poses an unwarranted risk to the wild animals in the port, and a huge mess if there is widespread abalone mortality at the farm.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jocelyn El-Hage', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

( JOCELYN EL-HAGE )