



29 Kennedy St  
GLADESVILLE NSW 2111  
11 December 2019

Department of Planning

**RE: Ivanhoe Estate SSD-8707 EXH-2601.**

The Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group welcomes the changes made to the plan for this development and the retention of 94% of the STIF but would prefer to see all of it preserved.

Our major concern, however, remains with the number of trees still to be felled. Is there no way that the 796 number can be further reduced? The clearing of so many trees will have a substantial negative effect on the biodiversity on the site by reducing the habitat for fauna and removing the understorey vegetation. Australia's biodiversity loss is alarming and the preservation of large areas of mature trees in areas such as the Macquarie Park area are vital, not just for the preservation of native fauna and flora but for the health of people working and living in the area. In addition, trees form an important role in drawing down carbon from the atmosphere and reducing our carbon emissions. Cutting down so many trees will only add to our increasing carbon emissions.

There is mention of nesting boxes to be installed. We would recommend these be installed immediately and well ahead of commencement of construction work to give the fauna that rely on hollow nesting holes an increased chance of survival.

The plan mentions the planting of 950 trees. It will be decades before they create a viable habitat for fauna and flora. What measures will be taken to ensure the trees chosen are native and indigenous to the area and that they will survive?

We are not convinced that biodiversity offsets are an effective tool in dealing with biodiversity loss and remain opposed to their use. Indeed, according to a report done by the Nature Conservation Council in 2016 *"Biodiversity offsets schemes in NSW are failing to deliver the environmental outcomes governments and policy makers have promised and the design and performance of these schemes is declining."*

Yours sincerely

Pamela Reeves  
Secretary  
Ryde Gladesville Climate Change Action Group