

**Submission
No 18**

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS IN NSW

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NSW Legislative Assembly

Committee on Environment and Planning

Inquiry into Historical Development Consents in NSW

Dear Chair and Committee Members,

In response to your request for feedback from the public, I would like this submission to be counted in your deliberations.

I have lived in the Blue Mountains for over forty years and have participated whenever our Council has invited input around the development of our community's values. Our shared love of the World Heritage-listed natural beauty of this area has prompted widespread respect for our Local Environment Plan. I am horrified that some zombie development application could undermine the responsible planning laws, anywhere in NSW, but especially here in the Blue Mountains.

I am thinking very particularly of the old "Crocodile Park," now touted as an "international tourist development" on Boddington Hill in Wentworth Falls. It would be a travesty if such a development was pushed through at State level, against the wishes of locals, just because the original decades-old application is still valid and is deemed "of State significance" because of its proposed size.

I would like your committee to recommend that our NSW Government make legislative changes to set **time limits for completion** of successful development approvals, otherwise they should be judged by standards prevailing at the expiry of said time-limit. This might curtail the practise of moth-balling applications from potential developers until they can sell for profit or find a favourable political climate to proceed. I would like this legislative change to be applied retrospectively, that is to any zombie application not begun when change goes through Parliament.

I think zombie development plans are a scourge and hope I am adding my voice to support you in eradicating this legal loop-hole in NSW

Yours faithfully,

Steve Garthwin