Submission No 143

HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS IN NSW

Name: Mr Craig Garrett

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As a local Bega valley resident I have lived nearby this area for two years. As a keen jogger I have run from Mirador down to Tura Beach and back again numerous times. This place, this small pocket of bushland, houses threatened species such as the glossy black cockatoos, yellow-bellied gliders, long-nosed Potoroos, black swamp wallabys and powerful owls.

I have worked in both the federal government and at local government levels on environmental projects (with ANCA - Australia Nature Conservation Agency, and at Redlands City Council: RCC). At ANCA I worked on the Ramsar conference that was held in Brisbane in 1996, and then in 2018 I worked on RCC's Koala Conservation Program. I have a long history of protecting important habitats for sustaining biodiversity. As a Council employee at RCC I couldn't comment on the Toondah Wetlands development, but as a private citizen I supported the community campaign to stop that inappropriate development.

This Zombie DA in Tura is similarly inappropriate, and the fact that it was granted 30 years ago, well before most of the animals this piece of beautiful bush sustains became endangered, should be reason enough to extinguish it. It is absolutely not fit for purpose. This precious patch of habitat is even more precious now than it was 30 years ago, because the animals it sustains are in so much more danger now than ever before.

This piece of biodiverse bush habitat should not be razed for residential properties and the Zombie DA should be extinguished.