

**Submission  
No 226**

## **HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS IN NSW**

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As a member of the Manyana Matters Environmental Association and Coastal Residents United and a local resident of Bendalong in the Shoalhaven LGA on the South Coast of NSW I strongly endorse the submission from the Manyana Matters Environmental Association and all it's recommendations.

Historic DA colloquially known as Zombie DAs and also Zombie Planing Approvals are a huge problem for virtually every coastal community of NSW. I have no doubt these lingering DAs and historic Zoning decisions are also problems for regional and metropolitan communities too.

In the context of climate change, increasing bushfire and flood in particular, loss of biodiversity and the looming extinction crisis Zombie DAs and historic planning / zoning decisions must be reassessed under current planning and environmental laws.

While this government committee is considering input, testimonies and recommendations a moratorium on all Zombie DAs should be declared.

It is also crucial that a comprehensive data base of all Zombie DAs be developed so government can assess their scope and potential impacts on a regional basis.

Specifically :

1. There should be an immediate moratorium on the commencement of historical development consents, particularly the clearing of native vegetation, while this Inquiry is underway. This should include development consents in bushfire affected areas granted before the 2019 /20 Black Summer bushfires and flood affected areas specifically housing subdivisions in flood plains.
2. Property owners who hold historical development consents must be required to report them to the Department of Planning, so that the extent of these consents in NSW is known.
3. All historical development consents must be reassessed under current planning and environmental laws.
4. Clarify the definition of commencement in legislation to ensure genuine and substantial commencement. This definition should apply to all DAs regardless of when they were approved.

Peter Winkler

(Nerringillah Valley, Bendalong NSW).