

**Submission  
No 206**

## **HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT CONSENTS IN NSW**

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As a citizen of the state of NSW I have made several submissions in response to Development proposals and land clearing in the Newcastle and regional surrounds. The DAs under comment are often subject to historical development consents.

My comments are as follows:

1. The EIS and consents are based on legislation of the time of consent. This means development standards that apply for environmental protection is woefully updated and do not meet community standards of today.
  2. The EIS's that underpin historical development consents are woefully updated so that the environmental impacts are so altered that a much more current EIS is required to reflect the actual impacts that will occur when development occurs.
  3. Impacts of development change over time, influenced by the cumulative effect of development around historical consent areas and those impacts are not taken into account. I recommend that all EIS's have a sunset clause.
  4. The events that constitute commencement of development are so opaque that almost any development actions extend the lifetime of historical consents. I've experienced on case where 'soil testing' kept an 11 year old consent active.
  5. Even where high priority endangered plant and animal species are identified as present by environmental consultants, development still occurs. It's devastating.
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