Koala Inquiry 25th October 2019 Koala Survival Lessons from Gilead -

Lendlease subverted Biobanks provide little Koala habitat/corridor protection

There is nothing in Lendlease's master plan that says "koala habitat' or acknowledges its important bridging location, it's a very ordinary subdivision, but where we see the complete disdain for Koala conservation is expressed in its Biobanking regime. There are four issues important to biobanking that have been undermined:

Biodiversity Certification Assessment Area Let 5 0P1240886 Lot 2 DP1240836 Let 1 DP1240836 1.014 02424030 of 61 DPV52042 Lat 3 OP1240836 Legend Biodiversity Certification Assessment Area Cadastre Retained Land Proposed Biobank Sites (Applications submitted Cadastre (updated) EEC Buffer Land to be Certified Surrounding Conservation Area Land Subject to Conservation Measures Beuleh Biobank Site Noorumba Council Reserve (Biobank Ste) Potential Biobank Sites

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Figure 3: Mt Gilead Biodiversity Certification Assessment Area and location of existing conser (two proposed Biobank sites within the BCAA), and potential Biobank sites outside the BCAA

- 1. **Proximity:** If Lendlease was serious it would have used the land it has east of Appin Rd near the site as a Biobank, not Fernhill 40 km away. Preference must be for on-site, then **adjacent sites**, then at least biobanks within the Macarthur Growth Area.
- 2. Zoning: The Macarthur Onslow Mt Gilead and Noorumba Mt Gilead biobanks have been zoned Public Recreation RE1 and Rural RU1 rather than Environmental E2 this has allowed Lendlease to include water detention basins, play equipment, etc, within them. Their primary purpose has been subverted to provide infrastructure needed for subdivisions.
- 3. Additionality: Campbelltown Council reserve Noorumba is a state biobank, a Council site that is already a Bush Reserve maintained by volunteers, it thus provides no additional Koala habitat protection to replace Koala habitat that will be removed on site. This is the point of offsets.
- 4. Shape: The Red Flagged avoidance areas are vegetation islands, not connected to anything. All biobanks need to be connected and part of wildlife corridors between a minimum of 100m (EPBC corridor) to at least 425m (Biolink habitable width) wide. In barrieral.

