## INQUIRY INTO AGISTMENT OF HORSES AT YARALLA ESTATE

Name: Ms Caela Hartley

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The Director, Select Committee on the Agistment of Horses at Yaralla Estate Legislative Council. Parliament House Macquarie St, Sydney NSW 2000

To The Hon Robert Borsak MLC Committee Chair,

## RE: CURRENT AND FUTURE AGISTMENT OF HORSES ON THE YARALLA ESTATE

Dear sir/ madam, I am a local resident and horse owner of the Inner West/ Yaralla area. I have been brought up riding horses at Yaralla thanks to my mum who have owned horses there for over 30 years.

This is the place that I grew up with and have spent literally most of my time at, instead of going out or to parties I would stay at the paddocks to help plait up my friends horses for shows, or I would just hang around with my horse as he would eat his dinner, because there was really no better place than the horse paddocks. This is the place I fell in love with horses and the community around.

Yaralla estate has been the place for many years that I would come to when things weren't going so great, a place where I could be with my best friend (my horse) and get away from all the reality that was going around me, I'd be around cheerful community members that would love to talk about the horses, id also be around the other Yaralla horse riders, and it would be just so refreshing, but now that's all gone, all gone because some people are greedy and only think about themselves and money.

It angers me so much that people with power want to change things such as a beautiful piece of country paradise in the middle of the city where families come to be together and just be happy. It was generally a happy and peaceful place. I went down to the paddocks the other day and I realized that there is no love there any more, you don't see as many community members walking their dogs, you don't see people riding their horses around the paddocks, you don't see generally happy people coming up and feeding the horses, there is nothing any more, no happiness at all, it's so sad, all the happy memories are gone, and to think when I have kids I won't be able to show them where I use to ride, the place that had inspired me to do some much, and a place that had taught me a countless number of lessons, because by the time I have kids the place will most likely be another breakfast point, this is why it is SO important to fight to keep the Yaralla estate.

There are so many memories here for a lot of people, I was talking to an older gentleman the other day and he said that when he came back from the war he use to have a job in the estate delivering coke to the hospital, I was also talking to a different man and back in his younger days when the hospital was still running he would go to the hospital quite a bit because he had a girlfriend their and some of the other memories and stories that they both told me brought tears to my eyes because that were just so beautiful, I really cannot stress to people how important it is that we save this amazing place where so many memories and stories have been made.

Caela Hartley