

Submission  
No 322

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING PROCESS IN NEWCASTLE  
AND THE BROADER HUNTER REGION**

**Name:** Name suppressed

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Partially Confidential

ICAC proceedings have revealed unethical and corrupt activities on behalf of some Newcastle representatives, betraying the trust of the electors of the region. Therefore the major decisions affecting Newcastle and the Hunter Region that were influenced by these representatives need to be revoked.

The following major developments need to be urgently halted:

The Newcastle East End Project

The truncating of the Newcastle Heavy Rail line.

The State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) amendments (Newcastle City Centre), {which created spot-planning loopholes in restrictions previously agreed by community consultation, and did so under a conflict of interest}.

Planning regulations are there to ensure that developers don't ride roughshod over the needs of the community and the environment in the pursuit of individual profits. Part of the planning department must not be allowed to override important height restrictions in order to favourably influence the saleability of assets belonging to that department and its commercial partners. It is an ethical breach and a conflict of interest.

There needs to be a halt to major developments in Newcastle and the Hunter Region until after the State Election in 2015.

A probity audit of all material concerning the UrbanGrowth GPT project should be conducted.