

**Submission
No 192**

**INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

Name: Mr David Penn

Date received: 29/08/2014

Dear Sir,

Regrettably, for some time the Environment Protection Authority has, by its actions or inaction, generated a perception that it is failing to fulfil its role in protecting the interests of the community and the natural environment. There have been many instances which have reported in the media and I am not going to enumerate them here. I recall that the performance of the EPA was also criticised by a government Audit report.

The current frenzied pace of development in New South Wales is placing great pressure on air quality and on water quality, both on the surface and in our aquifers. It is also severely impacting on the ecosystems that support our wellbeing.

The EPA must be adequately resourced to carry out its functions. It must impartially enforce conditions of licences or approvals and must prosecute offenders with realistic penalties.

We look to this inquiry to address the specific concerns raised by the community and to make recommendations to ensure that the EPA is capable of putting the environment and healthy communities ahead of polluters.

Yours sincerely,
David Penn