

INQUIRY INTO NEW SOUTH WALES PLANNING FRAMEWORK

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SOCIAL ISSUES COMMITTEE

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23 October 2008

The Hon Tony Catanzariti MLC
Committee Chair
Standing Committee on State Development
Parliament House
Macquarie Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr Catanzariti

SUBMISSION TO INQUIRY INTO THE NEW SOUTH WALES PLANNING FRAMEWORK

I wish to comment on one particular term of reference:

(d) Climate change and natural resources issues in planning and development controls

In terms of planning for climate change, our Council's biggest issue is the lack of any definitive benchmarks. We do not have the expertise to be setting such benchmarks, nor do we have the financial resources to engage someone else to do it for us.

At the request of the Department of Planning we have just completed a Shirewide Structure Plan designed to guide land use and infrastructure planning for the next twenty years, yet we had no concrete information on the future impacts of Climate Change on our coastal community.

We are also, like many other NSW Councils, working to finalise our new LEP in accordance with the Draft Standard Instrument. Constraints mapping is an essential part of landuse planning, but once again we have no benchmarks to consider the impacts of Climate Change on issues such as flooding and bushfire risk.

Local Government is saddled with the responsibility and accountability for landuse planning. We need the State government to development clear climate change benchmarks to guide us – and soon.

Yours faithfully



RHONDA HOBAN
MAYOR

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