Submission No 191

## INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY

Name: Ms Jo Hobson

**Date received**: 29/08/2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

I support the Inquiry into the EPA 100%.

I have often wondered what is wrong with the EPA and its lack of regulating polluters and imposing high fines when there are breaches. Are EPA officers being stood over by government ministers or someone else OR is it just a matter of lack of resources. I hope the Inquiry answers this question for me.

Whatever is happening I would like to see accountability and not decisions that support the various industry bodies, eg. coal mining, developments, etc. Often there is only a prosecution after numerous community complaints. Why isn't the EPA out in the field more regularly checking on possible environmental breaches, etc.

After listening to information coming out of ICAC I now think pressure is coming from government ministers (or someone else) and that is impacting on EPA decisions that do not help the environment.

Looking forward to the report from this much needed Inquiry with the hope that the EPA can do what it was meant to do - PROTECT THE ENVIRONMENT BEFORE INDUSTRY NEEDS.

Yours sincerely, Jo Hobson