

**Submission  
No 51**

**INQUIRY INTO CLOSURE OF THE CRONULLA  
FISHERIES RESEARCH CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE**

**Name:** Mr Noel Gogelry

**Date received:** 23/07/2012

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**Sent:** Sunday, 29 Julv 2012 9:52 AM

**Subject:** application

Noel Gogerly

I have been fishing for 42 year at Tuncurry, Director of Wallis Lake Fishermen Co-Op since 1975 and Chairman of this Co-Operative for 20 years. I have been involved in the Lobster Management with Fisheries since inception in NSW. Have also been on various other fishery committees such as Snapper Steering Committee, also involvement in Fish Trawl, Prawn Trawl, fish trap, and estuarine fishing. Since being on the Board of Wallis Lake Fish Co-Op have always worked closely with NSW Fishery, both local and state.

After all this history and involvement for the whole of the Fishing Industry, I was at no time (or any other Commercial Fisherman to my knowledge), was consulted or discussed with the proposed closure of the Cronulla Fisheries Centre. This operation has been the most proficient centre and we all, as fishers knew our queries would be handled with the utmost professionalism.

The transfers that have taken place already has caused turmoil with lots of resignations by your staff.

When I have called the FBS with an enquiry, it was always immediate attention to my queries. Lately when I have called the FBS with an enquiry I have been put on hold for some 15 minutes (last Thursday and after being put on hold I eventually hung up the phone because of the long delay at anyone answering) . I was at sea working and time did not permit me to hang on the phone and wait. How long will it take a new licensing department to gain the years of acquired knowledge and experience to adequately represent the department and it's stakeholders??

All the Cronulla staff who are so dedicated and knowledgeable will be all split to various locations and with great inconvenience to themselves and their families who mostly have stable professions to carry-on with. Families, generally will not want to be uprooted to smaller towns where there is no employment for them.

This is only 1 section that I have talked about, all other sections will be affected also.

I have great fears that the cost of this closure and relocation will be worn by the commercial stakeholders/fishers of NSW through increasing fees and licences. Full cost recovery is on the agenda for fisheries management in all fisheries.

Noel Gogerly