

**Submission  
No 55**

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

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**cronullafisheries - Submission for the Inquiry into the closure of Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre of Excellence**

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**To:** <cronullafisheries@parliament.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 7/28/2012 3:03 PM  
**Subject:** Submission for the Inquiry into the closure of Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre of Excellence

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Dear Committee

I wish to lodge a submission regarding the closure of Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre.

I am one of the 19,000+ people who many months ago signed a petition strongly object to the closure of the Cronulla Fisheries.

The Minister has stated that there are no plans to reuse or redevelop the site so why waste tax payers money and state resources in closing and relocating an excellent specialised facility and fragmenting operations.

The staff at Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre are specialists.  
A vast majority of the staff will not be able to move to the proposed new locations and therefore specialised skills and experience will be lost from the Fisheries.  
This will put at risk the management of sustainable NSW fisheries resources and the threat to our environment of overfishing.

Currently the Cronulla site costs little to run.  
Only recently over \$1 million was spent on upgrading and modernising the laboratory facilities.  
Why move from these purpose built facilities now?  
The cost of staff relocation plus the provision of new sites is a waste of tax payers money.

The closure will have a major impact on families of staff members and also the district.  
Cronulla Fisheries is the largest single employer in Cronulla with over 100 employees.  
Moving these jobs will have a significant impact on the local community.

The decision to close Cronulla Fisheries Research Centre has been made with virtually no consultation with the major stakeholders.

This decision must be reversed for the sake all concerned.  
In this current difficult economic climate, the State Government should be spending our tax payers money more wisely.

Yours faithfully  
Rosalyn Goddard