



Administration Centre
4-20 Eton Street
Sutherland NSW
Australia

Please reply to:
General Manager
Locked Bag 17
Sutherland NSW 1499
Australia

Tel: (02) 9710 0333
Fax: (02) 9710 0265
DX4511 SUTHERLAND
Email: ssc@ssc.nsw.gov.au
www.sutherland.nsw.gov.au

ABN 52 018 204 808

Dr Garry Smith
Environmental Science & Policy Unit
Tel No; 02 9710 0547
Fax No; 02 9710 0108
Email: gsmith@ssc.nsw.gov.au
File: 98/1015

17 February, 2004

The Chairperson
Standing Committee on State Development
Parliamentary Inquiry into Port Infrastructure in NSW
Legislative Council
NSW Parliament
Macquarie Street
Sydney NSW 2000
Attention: Mr Robert Stefanic
Committee Secretariat

Dear Sir/Madam

- Preliminary Submission -
To
NSW Parliamentary Inquiry
Standing Committee on State Development (Legislative Council)
Port Infrastructure in New South Wales

We refer to the above Inquiry and wish to advise that Sutherland Shire Council met on 1 December, 2003 at which it resolved to request an extension to the deadline in order to make a submission to the Inquiry. Thank you for indicating by telephone recently that Council may submit its information by end of February, 2004. I take the opportunity to send the following as a *preliminary* submission.

The EIS for port expansion was only delivered to Council last week. Furthermore, Council was only recently briefed by the NSW Department of Infrastructure, Planning & Natural Resources regarding the Development Application & EIS from Sydney Ports for the Port Botany Expansion (on Thursday 26th January). Council requires further consultation with other organisations such as SSROC before finalising its submission and appearing at the forthcoming Parliamentary Hearing.

In summary, Council intends to address the following four components of the proposed expansion of Botany Bay:

(a) The Expansion of Port Botany

Council has undertaken a great deal of work, in particular with SSROC, on strategies for Botany Bay and its impact on the region eg Jim Colman, Botany Bay Program Manager's report "Turning the Tide" (Southern Sydney Regional Organisations of Council 2002). The proposed expansion of Port Botany has implications for the Bay including Sutherland Shire.

(b) The Damage to the Environment

Indicators for environmental change examined in the past have raised concerns about the level of development to date in Botany Bay and the potential negative impacts on the environment. (Please refer to website www.botanybay.au.com). Council would like to communicate recent results, including those of Sutherland Shire Council's own State of the Environment Report and discuss issues that arise regarding the environment, such as sediment dynamics and contamination, groundwater contamination and invasive species.

- (c) The plan for increased truck movements. Council is undertaking a great deal of work on regional transport issues and over-dependence on vehicular traffic. Council wishes to raise with the Committee issues including freight on roads, risks which arise from impact on road infrastructure in the region as opposed to alternative transport and impact of truck movements on peak car congestion and/or water quality. We also want to identify concerns about the lack of information on the Enfield destination for freight at Port Botany.
- (d) The Dredging of Port Botany
Council has concerns regarding the impact of dredging at Port Botany and the effects on other parts of the Bay in light of concerns about wave energy and further erosion of Towra Point and Bay beaches.

We would welcome your confirmation that representatives from Council may attend and make a presentation at the forthcoming Parliamentary Hearing. Please contact me should you have any additional queries regarding our Submission.

Yours sincerely,



Dr Garry Smith BSc, PhD, MPlan
Principal Environmental Scientist
for J W Rayner
General Manager