

**Submission  
No 239**

**INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW  
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

**Name:** Ms Mary Rawlings

**Date received:** 30/08/2014

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Dear Sir/Madam,

What New South Wales needs is a fearless and independent Environment Protection Authority that puts the interests of the community and natural environment first. Strangely enough that is what its name implies i.e. Environmental Protection.

The EPA has an important role to play in protecting, restoring and enhancing the quality of the environment in New South Wales. However a number of recent incidents highlight the EPA's failure to regulate or prosecute polluters and stop environmental breaches.

To put it clearly public perception is that the EPA has been captured by polluters and developers and cannot be relied upon to protect the interests of the wider community.

This needs to be rectified immediately and the EPA returned to doing the job for which it was designed. A great many people are no longer fooled by a name and are watching carefully the gap between protestations and practice.

Yours faithfully,  
Mary Rawlings