

Submission
No 284

INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Mrs Louise Dortins

Date received: 23 July 2016

UPPER HOUSE INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND

I write in support of a thorough inquiry into the appropriate use and protection of Crown Land in NSW.

As a grandparent I am vitally concerned about the protection of biodiversity and about the sustainable use of land, such that it takes consideration of protection against climate change.

I submit that: to meet these objectives Crown land must remain in public ownership.

An exhaustive and expert evaluation of environmental and other values is the only proper basis for decisions about future uses and adequate protection of Crown land. This evaluation must be conducted in an open and transparent manner.

Administration of Crown land must be open, transparent and accountable to the people of NSW, for whose present and future benefit it is held in trust. Public participation in management should be increased.

It is vital that management of Crown land is based on principles of ecological sustainability. It must take account of the preservation of habitat of our flora and fauna, and of carbon sequestration in mature trees and other vegetation.

The fulfilment of the above objectives will necessitate co-operation between agencies responsible for Crown land and other land managers including National Parks and Wildlife Services, State Forests and local councils.