

**Submission  
No 306**

## **INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES**

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## Inquiry into Crown land

Regarding the inquiry into Crown land of New South Wales, I, Dr Mary MacGibbon, wish to express the concern of many in the community regarding the current NSW State government's extraordinary failure to address responsibly its role in administration of public land with regard to present and future generations in economic, environmental and sociocultural terms. The community are reeling at what appears to be the actions of a puppet government.

A few current examples include:

- the extraordinary removal of old beautiful healthy trees which formed a carapace for Centennial Park, and whose loss has resulted in noise and the views of Alison Road traffic impacting on what were once quiet beautiful fields, ostensibly to cater to the local racing industry desire to build a hotel.
- the proposed changes to the Biodiversity Bill which remove the albeit minimal regulations in place currently, and which are a threat not only to the small percentage of remaining biodiverse regions, but to soil quality, as resulted from the Queensland employment of protocols which those proposed mimic. This is not good farming practice, let alone protection of biodiversity.
- the shooters party seems to have a stranglehold on the state government in the new 50 year lease arrangement which it appears breaches multiple procedural requirements given the lack of public consultation. The expected increase in shooting days from the current one or two days per week to 5 days per week would mean that the new Eastern National Park, allegedly public land, would only be open to the public on two days per week, and perhaps not at all on weekends.
- the proposed new legislation allowing for lengthy jail sentences for those protesting peacefully against the destruction and salination of our valuable aquifers by careless mining, instead of being praised.

There are many more...

Even this current inquiry was alleged to be open to submissions, but the public seem generally in the dark regarding it.

What is happening to this state, that the public are taken by surprise in decisions made at times and in manners designed to bypass the public, backroom deals are made, huge trees are mulched at midnight.

True leadership from our community leaders, with real intelligence, and respect for the community, is craved. It needs to be multifactorial with socio-cultural, environmental and proper economic understanding.

A citizen of Australia has rights and responsibilities. At the moment it feels as if we are giving our all in our work and our communities, and paying high rates and taxes, and yet are being led by people who are not leaders or managers, who are making many stupid and dangerous decisions, evidently have little care for the community in many important areas, and hence do not honour the rights of

the citizens. This is unworkable and unnecessary. The individuals who pay the wages of the managers of the state should certainly not have to take time out, repeatedly, to explain what would be in the interests of the state and its citizens.

Regarding the terms of reference cited, each simply needs to involve proper consultation of those most knowledgeable in the various areas, evident care and respect for the current and future citizens of NSW, transparency to and consultation with the public, respect for our indigenous society in particular, and essentially decent undertaking of that for which the state government is paid.