

Submission
No 189

INQUIRY INTO CROWN LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

Name: Rosalind and Bruce Helyard

Date received: 24 July 2016

Submission: Reclassification on Land on the Central Coast

We are long-term residents, having lived in Victoria St, East Gosford for 35 years. Our family were pioneers of Ourimbah. We are very unhappy with the prospect of reclassification of land for future sale for the following reasons:

- There appears to be no rationale behind the land selected for reclassification
- The Central Coast, and particularly East Gosford, is witnessing a very rapid urban growth, especially in high density housing with an accompanying decline in native trees and vegetation. As a result, we need to highly value pockets of land with native vegetation as critical urban assets
- We would like to see these parcels of land kept for our grandchildren and their grandchildren. We do not want the land sold and put into general revenue. We need to keep land for future purposes such as play, visual beauty and mental health
- The parcel of land in Wells St, East Gosford is a green space that our family has enjoyed. My sister lived in Lushington Street for many years and we enjoyed the beautiful huge gum on the top of this block of land
- Before any land is reclassified we would like to see Council do a very detailed analysis of each site. This would involve checking the species of flora and fauna on each site. It would also involve thinking critically about demographics, future growth, global warming and a vision of what the community wants for the Central Coast. Perhaps council could refer to previous work it has done with the local residents, when it has undertaken extensive community consultation. As we are not qualified in flora and fauna, it is unfair to ask local residents to submit detailed submissions on the current asset of each plot of land.

We would urge Central Coast Council to act as custodians on behalf of the community and “bank” these little pockets of land for future use of residents and native flora and fauna.

Your sincerely
Rosalind and Bruce Helyard