

**Submission  
No 29**

**INQUIRY INTO PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS  
OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND  
COMMUNITIES**

**Name:** Mr Douglas Williamson

**Date Received:** 27 October 2023

---

I call on this committee to encourage Administrator Hart to withdraw Central Coast Council's (CCC) Development Application (DA) lodged in conjunction with coastal property owners to build a retaining wall on Wamberal beach in light of the referenced paper published in Nature last month.

Further, I ask that Ministers Scully, Sharpe and Harris collaborate to support CCC through a review of all coastal zoning in light of the threat from projected sea level rises and the enforcement of the Coastal Zone Planning Act to protect beaches, foredune and backdune areas for the entire coastal community rather than a just landowners who have failed to conduct due diligence prior to purchasing of their properties.

Finally, Ministers King, Plibersek and Dr. Reid, it would improve climate change resilience of the entire Australian coastal community if coastal planning legislation was nationally uniform.

A conclusion of above mentioned research was that in order to increase coastal communities resilience to predicted climate change and their access to ecological services provided by mangroves, these habitats must be protected. This is in direct contradiction to the damage and loss of mangroves from erosion which will occur surrounding Wamberal lagoon North of Wamberal Surf Club if CCC proceeds with this joint DA it has been forced into by inappropriate zoning and lack of enforcement of Coastal Zone Management Act by NSW Government.

Yours in dismay,

D J Williamson

Reference: "We studied more than 1,500 coastal ecosystems - they will drown if we let the world warm above 2°C" — <https://theconversation.com/we-studied-more-than-1-500-coastal-ecosystems-they-will-drown-if-we-let-the-world-warm-above-2-211431>