

Your reference 06-0135

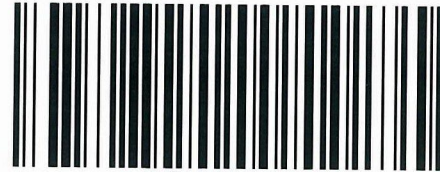
Our reference

**FORESTS NSW**

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PCU012919

Ms Sally Munk  
Senior Environmental Planner  
NSW Planning & Infrastructure  
PO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

7 November 2012

**Re: Tourist Development, Comberton Grange, Nowra (06-0135)**



Dear Ms Munk

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the environmental assessment submitted by the Shaolin Temple Foundation for the Comberton Grange development. While Forests NSW (FNSW) recognises that this is a significant project the environmental assessment does not appear to have adequately considered compatibility of forestry operations in the vicinity of such a development.

This issue has been addressed in the report with the statement "Activities proposed by Forests NSW on their land adjoining the proposed development are contrary to the aims and outcomes of the REP". This statement indicates a lack of understanding of forestry approval processes and the current operational status of the adjoining State Forests. This would appear to be a result of the proponents not consulting with Forests NSW regarding this proposal.

FNSW operations are ecologically sustainable. The Integrated Forestry Operations Approval for Southern Region ensures the protection of the environment and threatened species conservation. FNSW operations are certified to Australian Forestry Standard – AS 4708:2007 and International Standard – ISO 14001. The use of these certifications to recognise environmental compliance for sustainable timber production is recognised worldwide.

Aboriginal Land Council own the land directly adjoining the western and northern boundary of the Temple development. Forest Management Zoning 3A occurs on the part northern and eastern boundary of the Shaolin Temple development area. FMZ 3A areas are protected from timber harvesting activities, however other low impact activities are permitted in these areas of state forest. The remaining northern and eastern boundaries of the Temple development will be subject to General Management Operational activities including timber harvesting (the use of chain saws, logging trucks & heavy plant) and

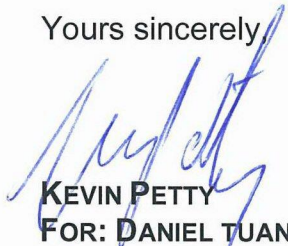
hazard reduction burning. It would be prudent to consider the impact of truck traffic and industrial noise in close proximity to the development, especially the proposed Buddhist Temple Sanctuary Precinct area directly adjoining these areas of activity. Timber harvesting activities will occur intermittently over 10-20 years, however may last for period of 3-6 months at a time when active. FNSW proposes to conduct hazard reduction burns in all areas of state forest approximately every seven years.

It is also noted that Forest Road will be the main access for the Temple development. Forests NSW was lead to believe during negotiations with Shoalhaven City Council that the Forest Road access was a secondary axillary access only.

I also bring to your attention that the assessments proposal for a 50mm riparian buffer on Currumbene Creek, it appears this should read 50 metres, not millimetres..

If you require any further information on FNSW comments on this development application please contact me on 02 4475 1414.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kevin Petty', is written over the typed name and title.

**KEVIN PETTY**

**FOR: DANIEL TUAN**

**REGIONAL MANAGER, SOUTHERN**