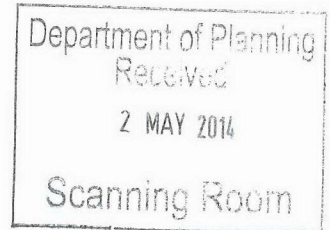


Steve Willoughby,
10 Hafey Road
KENTHURST. NSW 2156



17th April, 2014

Attention: Director, Industry, Key Sites and Social Projects
Development Assessment Systems & Approvals
Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Dear Mr Hazzard

Application Name: Proposed Pindimar Abalone Farm
Application #: MP 10_0006

My wife and I strongly object to the proposed Pindimar Abalone Farm.

Declaration re: political donations:

We declare that I have not made any political donations in the previous two years.

Reasons why I object to the proposal:

My wife Rochelle and I strongly object and refute to this proposal. It poses an unwarranted risk to the marine life and also wild animals in the port, and a huge mess if there is widespread abalone mortality at the Farm.

We are also extremely concerned about the danger of diseases arising from the proposed Pindimar Abalone Farm. Intensive farms are incubators of diseases and a massive problem has already occurred in abalone farms in Victoria, causing widespread destruction to the industry (not just in the farm that cultivated the disease – but to the coastal wild abalone population). The risk of allowing this industry is too high and it poses a threat to destroy our beautiful waterways and fragile marine life and give rise to pollution. How can this be allowed? At what cost to the environment and after we have all been obeying the rules of the Marine Parks?

The proposed Abalone Farm at Pindimar, now on exhibition, is very concerning to us and it must be stopped!! We also holiday in this area every single year, and our dream was to own property and perhaps one day reside in this area. Why have we had the Marine Parks in place and what benefit is it of anyone holidaying or living in Pindimar harbouring an Abalone Farm? Many of the residents of Pindimar are elderly or retired, or are holiday makers who should be able to continue to enjoy the quiet and peaceful environment to which they have positively contributed to themselves. This area is a beautiful and quiet and remote area. We want it to stay that way! Why should this area be penalised and allowed to have a potential development that is not for an Australian Market? Why have this Abalone Farm? Won't most of this product be exported anyway?

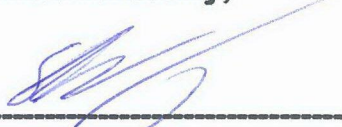
Also, upon researching this, regarding Abalone Farming in Victoria, the infective agent, ganglioneuritis virus has now spread to Tasmania!!! NSW wild abalone have already been decimated by a parasite, Perkinsus. Some forms of bacteria also attack abalone and many diseases cannot be controlled. The proposal for the farm recognises the grave dangers posed by infection, but assures us that they will use extreme sterility practices and extensive decontamination.


Who will be responsible for ensuring these measures are met? Who will police their adherence? And what irreversible cost to our environment if these measures fail?

These labour intensive protocols and extremely expensive measures will need to be maintained throughout the life of the plant...there is no guarantees in this!!!

It is very obvious that the proposal will only benefit the applicant who would gain financially at the cost of destroying the peaceful and beautiful area of all residents and holiday makers to Pindimar. The final product will only be mainly exported and Abalone is not of any demand in Australia, so apart from financial gain by the applicant, how can this proposal be even supported?

Yours sincerely,



STEVE WILLOUGHBY

ROCHELLE WILLOUGHBY