



Development Assessment Systems and Approvals
Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39, Sydney, NSW 2001

Attention: Director, Industry, Key Sites and Social Projects



RE: Application MP 10_0006. Pindimar Abalone Project.

I do not wish my name or contact details to be made available to the proponent, public authorities or the agency website.

As a permanent resident I wish to object to the Pindimar Abalone Project on the following basis:-

Marine Turtles . The EAR Appendix 16 Aquatic Ecology Report on Marine Turtles from p68 states that "it's unlikely that the turtle life cycle will be disrupted or they will be placed at risk of extinction" and that "no marine turtle critical habitat will be affected".

As Seaturtle.org in conjunction with NSW Marine Parks state on their website "The Port Stephens-Great Lakes Marine Park (PSGLMP) is the largest marine park in New South Wales covering an area of 98,000 hectares from Forster to Port Stephens. It is a little known fact that the PSGLMP is an important region for marine turtles as they can be found in many locations across the park however there has been no research conducted on these marine turtles to date."

Based on the above statement I cannot understand how a risk assessment was carried out without adequate research into turtle feeding, nursery and migration areas let alone its impact on other marine life.

- Refer to Marine Parks Authority NSW Recreational Fishing Guide 08/10 Map 28 (the park locality immediately adjacent to the development) which provides "Loggerhead Turtles use the marine park as a restaurant, visiting frequently to feed on shellfish, crabs, sea urchins and jelly fish;"
- Mature and juvenile turtles can be seen off South Pindimar and Piggies Beaches, both adjacent to the proposed Abalone Farm discharge and sea water inlet points.
- Marine Parks' satellite tracking of some turtles show activity in the Pindimar and Piggies Beach areas.

- The EAR does not provide an adequate assessment of the impact of nitrogen discharge from the proposed aquaculture process on turtles or the potential impact of the discharge plume on their movements.
- I fail to understand the proponents' justification that discharge loads from the proposed abalone farm are acceptable because they are less than other sources.
- I would have expected that modelling would be carried out on discharge water temperature or simply to ensure that ambient air temperature, friction and pump heat factors are taken into consideration. Temperature can impact on the growth or lack of on seaweed near the point of discharge.
- I would have expected that sand migration modelling was carried out to define the potential erosion impact of the initial "jet" at discharge from the outlet pipes and to identify the creation and impact of new currents associated with the draw and dispersion of the inlet and outlet pipes.
- I would have expected that the discharge plume itself was specifically modelled in relation to "Non Filterable Residue" as this would assist in identifying any potential turbidity issues and its impact on sunlight reaching seaweed.

I have made no political donations over the past two years.



23/4/14