

Submission 129 - Anonymous 34

Approval Authority:- Minister for Planning and Infrastructure.

Dear Ms Goward,

I have not made any donations to any political party in the last 2 years.

I do not want my submission made available to the Proponent, Interested public authorities, or on the website without my personal approval.

I wish to object very strongly to the above mentioned Development Application being approved.

My reasons of objection are as follows:-

I have had holidays in South Pindimar for the last 46 years and enjoying the cleanliness of Port Stephens water and the aesthetic qualities of the village life and all that the Port offers.

Because of these values my wife and I purchased a property in Curlew Avenue, South Pindimar. We holiday at South Pindimar now with our children and a motor boat. We regularly go out onto the Port with the teenage children and visitors who thoroughly enjoy the swimming, the amenities and the atmosphere.

I have read some of the details of the Development planned and am appalled that your Dept would even consider approving this highly invasive, and possibly damaging project.

Port Stephens is a Holiday destination for thousands of tourists – Australian and Overseas visitors who help to generate the \$460 million per year using all the businesses that provide services to the Port's visitors. (t rips, food, accommodation, especially fishing). All these businesses depend on clean Port Water.

Why would you allow one project (which they have promised to employ 15 full time jobs) to go ahead and jeopardize all the financial benefits and employment of thousands generated in all these businesses.

The invasive pipes, 4 x 630 mm going out 500 metres into the Ports waters are being buried into Acid Sulphate Soil. This alone will be a problem as once exposed to air it becomes poisonous and can result in a Fish Kill. These pipes are very close to Port Stephens Marine Park which has increased the number of fish and marine life in the Port. They also go over Sea weed beds and are close to extensive sea grass areas. The young marine life will grow in the sea weed beds and then get sucked into the Pipes through the 2 to 5 mm mesh supposed to stop such entrainment.

The bigger problem I feel is the waste which will be generated and pumped back into the Port. The Proponent states that the Settling and skimming Pond will take most of the rubbish out but that 1,000 Kilograms of nitrogen and some waste will be dispersed and pumped back into the Ports water. The water must flow through the farm quickly and there is not enough time allowed for the settling of sediment.

MY FAMILY AND I SWIM IN THIS WATER AS DO THOUSANDS OF OTHER VISITORS.

Another problem is the noise generated by the machinery needed to pump 50 megalitres of water through the system and then back to the Port. The water in the breeding tanks will need to be considerably chilled as abalone only breed in water 18° C and below. The Port's water is in the range of 22 – 24°C, to cool the water to this temperature will take considerable cooling machinery which the local grid will not be able to supply, therefore a large generator will be required. The Proponent has not done an adequately accurately Proposed Noise level analysis because he does not know how much machinery will be needed. This machinery will work 24 hours per day, every day, with no let up. Would you like to live next to that.

THE PORT'S WATER IS TOO WARM FOR ABALONE. They need cooler ocean water.

This is the wrong site for an abalone farm – 10 klms into an Estuary and needing 2 klms of pipes to reach fast flowing water.

All other land based abalone farms are 10 klms from any habitation and are situated on the coast. This proposed site is 250 metres away from South Pindimar homes and they intend to use the village road to access the site.

Based on the above information I request that you reject approval for this application.

Yours Sincerely