



Margaret MacPherson

53 Cunningham St, Pindimar

No political donations

Please withhold name & address

MP 10-0006 Pindimar Abalone Farm

I have a residential property in Cunningham Street, Pindimar and I object to the proposed Abalone farm for the following reasons:

1 Polution

- With 50 MG in and 50 MG water per day, every day, there is not enough capacity to leave waste water in settling ponds before release into Port Stephens.
- Residue of food forming unhealthy scum, dead/rotting abalone will pollute the sand flats.
- Marine Sanctuary 200 metres west from outlet pipes so on the incoming tide the residue must flow west into the sanctuary whereas the proponents are more concerned with emphasising outflowing tide taking residue east. Tidal flow is both ways.
- Holding ponds are only made to polyvinyl - not substantial enough not to leak or split.
- Health risk – high tides come up to retaining walls in front of houses and into drains – dry chemicals and rotting abalone are a health hazard.
- Contamination of fish stock, seagrass beds, disease in wild abalone have not been properly investigated.
- This is the first abalone farm in an estuary, about 11 kms from the ocean – risks are too high to allow the proposal to proceed without more study on marine life. The location of the proposed farm should front the ocean not an estuary.

2. Traffic

- Roads not suitable for heavy traffic, especially down Cambage Street. Even the school bus picks up at corner of Cambage and Cunningham Streets.
- Clark St is narrow with a steep hill and blind corners – dangerous to traffic.
- The address on the Application is 180 Clark Street and as there is a track from that street address, they should use that entrance and not be allowed through the village at all.
- The proposed entry streets have never been formed (Como and Chalis Sts) and are just narrow sandy tracks.
- Access via Cambage Street is unacceptable to the residents as it is a quiet village street.
- This access should not be allowed as there is an alternative.



3. Noise

- The village is a very quiet area and the locals would like to keep it that way.
- Accumulated noise from main in/out pumps, auxiliary pumps is unacceptable.
- Noise levels have been gauged on 'rural guidelines' not urban noise restriction standards. This should be re-assessed.
- Motors will be ruining 24/7, too close to the residential area.

Conclusion

I consider the location of the proposed abalone farm inappropriate as marine sanctuaries, which are policed stringently, have been established in Port Stephens and this proposal will have little monitoring and the unquantified effect on Marine Parks and will certainly set a precedent for other dubious developments. We note a pearl farm has been denied approval.