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Subject: MP10-0084

I wish to object most strongly with the proposed Coal & Allied housing development in Gwandalan. Many aspects have been raised by others who have highlighted the lack of facilities and infrastructure to cope with such an influx of new residents in Gwandalan, viz, poor roads, lack of public transport, lack of medical facilities, lack of employment or industry, lack of water, (we have been on water restrictions for 8 years), regular loss of power to our homes due to over demand on electricity, lack of adequate schools, and general agreement in the community that this development is in the wrong place. The only reason Coal & Allied wish to develop this land is because it has finished mining the coal underneath the land and now wants to make even more money by building houses on it. No thought has been given to the consequences this will inflict on our small community.

Coal & Allied should return the land to the Crown who granted the mining rights in the first place. With all these facts highlighting why this proposal should not be permitted, I would also like to stress the pressure this clearing of virgin bushland will have on our native animals. These animals have been inhabiting this land for thousands of years. What will happen to them?

It is obvious they will not survive.

The residents of Gwandalan take care when driving along Kanangra Drive so that the kangaroos, wombats and possums do not get run over by motor vehicles. Indeed we have warning signs on the side of the road alerting motorists to take care because of the presence of kangaroos and other wildlife.

If these houses are built, the wildlife will disappear forever. Our abundant bird life will also have their trees removed causing interruption to their breeding cycles. We have rare kites and sea eagles nesting in the proposed housing area. There are also inadequate wildlife corridors included in the proposal.

I urge the Minister to stop this housing development and tell Coal & Allied to find appropriate land nearer to transport to develop. This site does not meet the criteria for Part 3A status. It fails on all grounds. The reason for the introduction of Part 3A by the government was to override large developments of say 10,000 houses, where conflict could have been an issue because of multiple councils involvement etc, but this is a relatively small development by State Significant Standards (only 600 odd houses), involving only one council (Wyong), and should not be entertained for this very reason. Nevertheless, a development of this magnitude on the small Gwandalan peninsular would be catastrophic for the serenity of our township. People retired to Gwandalan for its relative seclusion. This development would destroy that.

I urge the Minister to disallow this development.

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

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