

Director, Strategic Assessments
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

15 December 2010
48 Gamban Road
GWANDALAN 2259

Dear Sir/Madam

Re: State Significant Site and Concept Plan Proposal MP 10 0084 Gwandalan

I object to this proposal for the following reasons:

1. We live in a very small village location, Gwandalan/Summerland Point, and this proposed development will destroy our way of life. We came here to get away from large areas of over-development and now you want to force this massive development and increase of population upon us. I thought governments were elected by the people for the people. I believe the vast majority of this community do not want any further development, especially 623 new home sites at Crangan Bay. Coal and Allied are miners. Why do they want to become developers, or are they intending to sell it off to a developer? I think so.
2. There is only one way in and one way out. The current and future residents of Gwandalan and Summerland Point will be extremely disadvantaged by this development. We will be following behind the residents of this development to gain road access to the Pacific Highway intersection, and we will again line up behind these residents on the Pacific Highway and Kanangra Drive whilst they endeavour to get to their residences.
3. 60 hectares of magnificent bush will be destroyed. This does not make any sense to me as Wyong Council and other organisations are planting millions and millions of trees in our Shire to combat global warming etc. In this bushland there are endangered species. I don't think it is acceptable for Coal and Allied to say they are conserving other areas which gives them the right to destroy this area. They, and Rio Tinto, claim to be environmentally protective and friendly. I do not think so, as many of this community think the same.
4. There are hundreds of species of native wildflowers in this bushland, also migrating and resident birds and fauna depending on this bushland for survival. Their habitat will be destroyed forever. New development areas do not replace the wonderful ecosystem that previously existed.
5. This development could impact on the Lake's ecology. Crangan Bay itself, the waterway, is the last undeveloped Bay in the Lake and is considered to be in good to excellent ecosystem health. It is at the bottom end of the lake, and has seagrass meadows that form the foundations of the Lake's food chain, a breeding ground for fish and other creatures, a nursery for fish and crustaceans, providing food and protection from predators. The area has wonderful seagrass beds and the water depth becomes very shallow towards the end of the Bay. I am sure, because of its location, this development can only do irreparable damage to this area and its seagrasses due to boating activities, anchor setting and chain dragging, other water activities like jetskiing and water skiing etc. Also, runoff from the development

must occur, regardless of actions to decrease it, due to the whole area that runs downhill and slopes steeply towards the Lake, and also discharges to Crangan Creek. Seagrass beds are well established close to the shore. Excessive and prolonged rainfall will have devastating effects on this habitat. Seagrasses that are destroyed take years to recover, and in most instances will never recover. This area is not like many other areas in the northern end of the lake, as they experience some tidal flushing. Any benefits from tidal flushing reduces rapidly with distance away from the entrance channel, as it would in Crangan Bay. Newly established houses, gardens and lawns will impact on the Lake, with building runoff, establishment of lawns and gardens formulas; what a concoction for such a sensitive area.

6. *Posidonia Australis*, an endangered seagrass, exists in the Lake with large areas in the northern areas on the east, and there are 2 areas in the southern end in Crangan Bay on the East and West sides. Depending on the extent of an area of environmental checking when investigating this development, there could very well be the existence of *Posidonia Australis* in the area of the development and at the end of the Lake. I believe NSW Fisheries Habitat Department have not researched the end of Crangan Bay past Taylor's Bay and opposite, so there could well be some *Posidonia* near or in the area of the development. How much of the area did Coal and Allied have researched? If the whole area was not researched, how do you know it is not there in a large or small pocket?
7. Gwandalan and Summerland Point are located between 2 Power Stations. Vales Point and Mannering Park. This area of bushland goes a long way to giving us some protection from the fallout from these stations. Destroy this bushland and our fresh air will be further depleted. Who cares, certainly not Coal and Allied and the State Government. Money talks for both, in all instances.
8. Why is it that once again submissions for a development are published, and closing dates listed over the pre-Christmas period? The number of documents provided to peruse to make an informed decision is massive. One would need a week to sit in a Club or other place to read and comment on it all, bearing in mind there may be several people wanting to read it at the same time. Lots of people do not have computers or the internet, and there are a lot of elderly residents in our village who have lived here for a long time. We need more time to peruse these documents.
9. Developments should be built where access to work, transport, health facilities, schools etc. are in reasonable proximity. Regarding this development there is no work available locally, schools are at maximum capacity, local doctors have closed their books, and locals have to wait weeks for an appointment. Train transport is a fair way away requiring residents to use motor vehicles, either to get to work locally or further afield, or to rail stations, or drive to Sydney or wherever. More expense, more pollution, more taxes to the Government.
10. If this proposed development is approved and goes ahead it will be that you are not prepared to listen to our community, nor have you visited this magnificent area to assess it for yourselves. Before you make your decision, come and discover "God's little acre" and maybe you will not be at peace with your decision to destroy it.

 JANETTE McLEOD.