



Ref: OUT10/19748

A/Director Regional Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Mr Enguang Lee

Dear Mr Lee

**Re: MP07_0010 Concept Plan and Project Application for residential,
commercial and tourist development at Lot 4 DP 615261 and Lot 1 DP374315
Ocean Drive Lake Cathie, Port Macquarie LGA**

Thank you for your letter of 17 November 2010 seeking comment from Industry & Investment NSW (I&I NSW) on the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the above mentioned major project.

The EA raises no minerals, forestry or agricultural issues.

I&I NSW is responsible for ensuring that fish stocks are conserved and that there is "no net loss" of key fish habitats upon which they depend. I&I NSW have reviewed the Concept Plan and notes that the proposed development generally avoids direct impacts on key fish habitats including Lake Cathie and Duchess Gully. The following comments are provided to assist in your consideration of the proposal.

Intermittently Closed and Open Lakes and Lagoons (ICOLLs) such as Duchess Gully and Lake Cathie are susceptible to poor water quality as a result of cumulative impacts from development within their catchment. The quality and health of extensive seagrass beds in Lake Cathie, in particular, can be impacted by increases in diffuse and point source stormwater discharges. These discharges, if not managed appropriately, can elevate sediment and nutrient inputs which can have direct and indirect impacts on seagrass health.

I&I NSW recommend the EA statement of commitments adopt a commitment to improve the quality of stormwater discharges presently occurring at the site.

Should you require further information please contact Fisheries Conservation Manager, Patrick Dwyer, on (02) 6626 1397.

Yours sincerely

Bill Talbot
Director, Fisheries Conservation & Aquaculture