

Property Owner: Gina Brough (Delacretaz)
Property Address:
Sydney Residence:
Email:
Date: 31/01/2012

This submission is to be presented on Thursday 2nd of February at the Ocean Shores Public School Hall by (proxy) Carmel Daoud to the PAC members.

I will be reading this address on behalf of my neighbor Gina Brough who is unable to be here today due to family commitments.

I strongly believe that the DoP's Assessment report and Recommendation is 100% consistent and extremely accommodating solely in favor of the Proponent. The problem with that is you could also describe it as being totally biased and inadequate at the detriment of the local residents and wildlife; the proof being the number of objectors here today who feel totally violated, undermined and stripped of their rights.

I am a wife and mother of 3 young children, a 4 year old, 2 year old and 9 month old. We have owned our property at the [REDACTED] for 8 years and envisaged raising our family here in a peaceful environment where the children could catch the local bus to school and walk to the beach through the local Nature reserve. If this proposed event sight is approved our quality of life will be severely impacted as will the value of our property.

Issue 1. Event site access

The DoP is recommending that Jones Rd, a small residential Rd, be turned into a main access for a commercial venue. How are children trying to catch their bus on the corner of Jones Rd and Tweed valley Way supposed to navigate the massive trucks that will be coming and going from the site all year round. It is currently a quiet dirt road and there is no need for a designated footpath but it would be a necessity for the safety of pedestrians if multi-ton trucks are regularly entering the Rd.

Issue 2. Beach Access

As we all know camping and swimming go hand in hand and alongside my property is the quiet 'Quarry Trail' which leads through the BNR to the beach. This is a natural draw card which will bring thousands of people right past my property. Making a once quiet track into a thoroughfare for intoxicated, rowdy, unpredictable people to come and go as they please. There are no public facilities between the event site and the beach. Their only means of transport is on foot, so who's door are they going to knock on if they get lost, need to use the phone, need a toilet, over dose, hurt themselves bush walking, get dehydrated, etc etc... It is the DoP's responsibility to view this site in its broader location and acknowledge that their duty of care for these intoxicated patrons extends beyond the boundary of the event site as the patrons will roam the local area without their full and better judgment. There's no chance I'd let my children play outside with thousands of unpredictable people roaming around. We would be house bound which completely defeats living in the country. Although the DoP has stated its intention to protect the BNR they have totally neglected to address these concerns adequately in their recommendations. The trail to the beach CAN NOT be used as a public toilet. How will it be protected and who will be monitoring the intoxicated swimmers at the other end?

Issue 3. Family Life

In normal family life, you would have birthday parties, BBQ's with friends, play dates, etc... but if you live at the end of Jones Rd, past 30-50,000 people trying to park their cars at the event site, how does the DoP envisage we live our lives? By the Event calendar, sorry son, you'll have to move your birthday to next week or maybe we won't be able to commit to weekend activities because our lives will be so disrupted. I can't even begin to comprehend living my life revolving around music festivals and I honestly believe it is too much for you to ask that of us. The recommendations don't address any alternate routes in and out of our properties so we can maintain some normality.

With regards to health emergencies, 2 of my children have had sever breathing emergency and been rushed to hospital more than 20 times. It would be unacceptable for a large number of event patron to be using Jones Rd as a footpath, I don't believe this issue has been addressed in the recommendation either.

Issue 3. Acoustic disturbance

We have been planning to build a new home in Jones Rd for a number of years although council won't entertain the thought until this project is resolved. I'd like to know, at who's expense will it be to sound proof the house? At the 69.3dB anticipated in the acoustic report, a new dwelling would require a concert slab, double brick walls, glazed windows with acoustic seals on all windows and doors, acoustic rated down lights, double plaster, wall insulation, just to name a few additional costs. In order to meet the noise criteria for sound levels in habitable spaces, the doors and windows would need to be shut and mechanical ventilation would be required as a minimum, just to meet Australian standards. It certainly is not normal for country people to live with the windows and doors shut. Why haven't the DoP addressed these issues? Just in case you can't imagine how noisy our daily life will be if this project goes ahead, imagine yourself in Sydney, at the beginning of the Anzac Bridge, in Rozelle, where Victoria Road meets the City West Link. There are 14 lanes of traffic flowing at the same time - that is the exact noise level we are talking about. Where is the humanity in that? For anyone who has tried putting a baby or toddler down for a nap with the music up loud you will know it is almost impossible.

Issue 4. Fire

By far my biggest concern is fire, and I speak out of fear. I escaped ash Wednesday with my life as our neighbors roofs fell in on them while they were still in bed. Where our property is situated on Jones Rd, we are nearly at the end of a dead end street, the only way out is back through the event site. So in the event of a catastrophic fire (which is highly possible) who in their right mind would chance trying to get through 30-50,000 people. Camping goes hand in hand with BBQ's, smoking, cooking, and it is impossible to monitor all of these fire hazards with such a large group of people. It is sheer stupidity to think that an evacuation plan would be adhered to when the patrons are not sober. The duty of care lays with the DoP to recognise that they have people's lives in their hands and be realistic about the lack of appropriateness of this site.

So, in concluding, if my children can't sleep properly due to the noise, can't play safely due to drunk beach goers, can't catch the bus to school safely due to the trucks, miss out on weekend sports events due to traffic, can't celebrate their birthdays on their actual days due to traffic and loud music, can't be guaranteed an ambulance can get to us promptly, are put at higher risk of not being able to escape a fire, where is the quality of life for us and why haven't all of these issues been addressed in DoP's Assessment report or Recommendations?