





29 October 2018

#### The Hon Anthony Roberts MP

Minister for Planning, Minister for Housing, and Special Minister of State Parliament House Sydney NSW 2000

#### Dear Minister

In accordance with Schedule 2, Clause 7 (1) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*, I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the Independent Planning Commission.

This report provides an account of the work during the 2017–18 financial year of the Commission since its creation on 1 March 2018 and of the predecessor body, the Planning Assessment Commission, before that.

I would like to record my appreciation of the contributions of my fellow Commissioners, especially those who finished their terms this year, and the work of the Commission Secretariat in supporting the Commission, along with Department of Planning & Environment's central services.

Yours sincerely

Mary O'Kane

Chair

Independent Planning Commission NSW

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Annual Report 2017-2018

## **CHAIR'S OVERVIEW**

The Independent Planning Commission (IPC) is a NSW Government Agency established as a corporation on 1 March 2018 under changes to the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979. In many ways it replaced the former Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) although there are some important differences, most notably that the Independent Planning Commission is a consent authority in its own right for State significant or other development when there are 25 objections of more; or the local Council objects; or there has been a political donation. This report covers the activities of both the IPC and PAC during the reporting period.

#### **Building public trust**

The Commission has an important role to play in building community confidence in the decision-making processes for major development and landuse planning across New South Wales – especially now that it is a consent authority (under certain conditions) in its own right.

This year it has been a priority of the Commission to build public trust in the new Commission and its independent decision-making processes. This builds on the Government's stated intent at the time of introducing the changes to the Act for how the Independent Planning Commission would function and is also part of the response by the Commission to the Auditor-General's performance audit of the Commission released in January 2017.

To that end, the Commission has undertaken a thorough review of its internal policies and procedures and has conducted consultations with key government, industry and community stakeholders. These activities have been instrumental

in the introduction of new and improved guidelines for public meetings, public hearings, site inspections and locality tours, as well as improvements to other processes.

Significantly, in recognition of the need for greater transparency and in line with new requirements under the Act, the Commission now audio records all public meetings and public hearings, with written transcripts published on the Commission's website.

Under the changes to the Act, the Commission is also required to provide reasons for its decisions in relation to State Significant Development applications. It now publishes on its website a 'Statement of Reasons for Decision' for each project.

The Commission is the first to acknowledge that not every decision it makes will be popular. However, by encouraging and promoting greater community awareness of and participation in the Commission's processes, and by maintaining a very high level of independence, expertise and transparency, the Commission aims to build public trust in the Commission and the decisions it makes.

Improving processes with a view to achieving better awareness and engagement with all Commission stakeholders, but especially the community at large, continues to be a priority in 2018-19.

#### Caseload

The primary work of the Commission involves two major tasks – determining State Significant Development applications and providing independent advice on applications and planning matters. The PAC also had a review function for major developments. The IPC does not have this function except for legacy cases still working through the planning system. In 2017-18 the IPC and the PAC combined completed 53 cases, including:

- the determination of 45 State Significant Development applications (including modifications)
- four reviews of Part 3A major developments
- providing independent advice on four major development applications and planning matters.

The Commission also held two public hearings and 19 public meetings in 2017-18.

#### Commissioners

Ms Lynelle Briggs AO completed 3¼ years as Chair of the Planning Assessment Commission on 31 January 2018. I commenced as Chair on 1 February 2018.

Commissioners who finished through the 2017-18 year are Dr Maurice Evans, Mr Roger Fisher, Mr Paul Forward, Ms Abigail Goldberg, Mr David Johnson, Dr Marcus Lincoln-Smith and Ms Annabelle Pegrum AM.

New Commissioners appointed in 2017-8 are Ms Carol Austin, Mr Soo-Tee Cheong, Mr Peter Cochrane, Ms Dianne Leeson, Professor Helen Lochhead, Professor Richard Mackay AM, Mr Russell Millar AM. Mr Tony Pearson, Ms Annelise Tuor, and Dr Peter Williams.

Under recent changes to the Act, the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel, comprising Professor Snow Barlow (Chair), Professor Alice Clark, Mr George Gates, Ms Catherine Hird, Dr Ian Lavering, Mr Geoff Sharrock, Mr Brett Whelan and Professor Garry Willgoose, become a sub-committee of the Commission.

Since 1 July 2017, the end of the financial year, 12 new Commissioners have been appointed including the eight members of the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel.

## Planning and administrative support

The Department of Planning & Environment continues to provide administrative and financial support to the Commission as well as planning professionals who support Commissioners on cases before the Commission. This support is provided under a Memorandum of Understanding between the two agencies.

Mary O'Kane Chair

Independent Planning Commission NSW



# **CONTENTS**

LETTER OF SUBMISSION	i
CHAIR'S OVERVIEW	ii
CONTENTS	1
OUR CHARTER, FUNCTION & MISSION	3
CHARTER	4
STATUTORY FUNCTION	4
THE COMMISSION AS A CONSENT AUTHORITY	4
MISSION, VISION AND VALUES	5
OUR PEOPLE	7
COMMISSION STRUCTURE AND MEMBERS	8
CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMISSION	8
CONSTITUTION OF THE COMMISSION FOR EACH MATTER	8
COMMISSIONERS IN 2017-18	8
MANAGING CONFLICTS	11
COMMISSIONER INDUCTION AND MEETINGS	11
THE SECRETARIAT	11
OUR POLICIES & PERFORMANCE	13
RECENT POLICY AND PROCEDURAL CHANGES	14
PERFORMANCE	14
CASELOAD	14
PUBLIC HEARINGS AND MEETINGS	16
TIMEFRAMES	16
OUR CASES	19
LOCATION OF CASES	20
TYPE OF CASES	22
OUR OPERATIONS	2
FINANCES	26
GIPA ACT REQUESTS	26
COMPLAINTS	26
PRIVACY	27
LEGAL PROCEEDINGS	27
OTHER INFORMATION	27
APPENDIX 1: OUR MEMBERS	29
MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION 2017-18	30
THE MINING AND PETROLEUM GATEWAY PANEL	39
APPENDIX 2: OUR WORK	43
STATUS OF CASES AS AT 30 JUNE 2018	44



# OUR CHARTER, FUNCTION & MISSION

## **CHARTER**

The Independent Planning Commission (IPC) was established as a corporation on 1 March 2018 under changes to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. It is a NSW Government Agency. In general terms it replaced the Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) which was established in 2008 which, in turn, replaced the Commissioners of Inquiry for Environment and Planning set up in 1980.

The Commission operates independently of other NSW government agencies, including the Department of Planning and Environment (the Department), and has an important role to play in building community confidence in the decision-making processes for major development and landuse planning state-wide.

As noted in the Act, 'the Commission is not subject to the direction or control of the Minister (except in relation to the procedure of the Commission and any directions authorised to be given to the Commission under section 9.1 or other provision of the EP&A Act)'.

### STATUTORY FUNCTION

The key statutory functions of the Commission according to the Act are:

#### **Determination**

The functions of the consent authority under Part 4 of the Act for State significant or other specified development.

#### Advice

To advise the Minister for Planning or the Secretary of the Department on any matter on which the Minister or the Secretary requests advice from the Commission. The matters on which advice may be provided under the Act include any general or particular planning or development matter, the administration of the Act or any related matter.

### **Public hearing**

To hold a public hearing into any matter into which the Minister for Planning or, in limited circumstances, the Greater Sydney Commission requests the Commission to hold a public hearing. The matters into which a public hearing may be held under the Act include any general or particular planning or development matter, the administration of the Act or any related matter.

#### Planning panels

Any function of a Sydney district or regional planning panel or a local planning panel in respect of a particular matter that the Minister requests the Commission to exercise (to the exclusion of the panel). And if a Sydney district or regional planning panel has not been appointed for any part of the State, any function that is conferred on any such panel under an environmental planning instrument applicable to that part or that is otherwise conferred on any such panel under this Act.

#### **Delegated functions**

Any functions under the Act that are delegated to the Commission, and any other function conferred or imposed on it under that or any other Act.

#### The Commission as a Consent Authority

The State's planning laws clearly identify which State significant development applications are to be determined by the Commission, and which are delegated by the Minister to the Department of Planning & Environment for determination.

The Commission is the consent authority for State significant development applications (including modification applications), where:

- there have been 25 or more public objections to the application, or
- the local council has objected, or
- a reportable political donation has been made.

Importantly, the Commission is the decision maker for these applications. However, under the Act, the Department of Planning & Environment separately carries out the administrative arrangements for them. These administrative arrangements include charging the application fee, publicly exhibiting the application, and preparing an assessment report for the Commission about the application. The Department's report is not binding on the Commission.

The Department is the delegated consent authority to make decisions on State Significant Development applications (including modification applications) where there are less than 25 public objections to the application, the local council does not object to the application, and there have been no reportable political donations.

# MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

#### Mission

To deliver a high level of independence, expertise and transparency to the assessment and determination of State Significant Development applications in NSW.

#### Vision

Well executed developments that benefit the people of NSW.

### Values

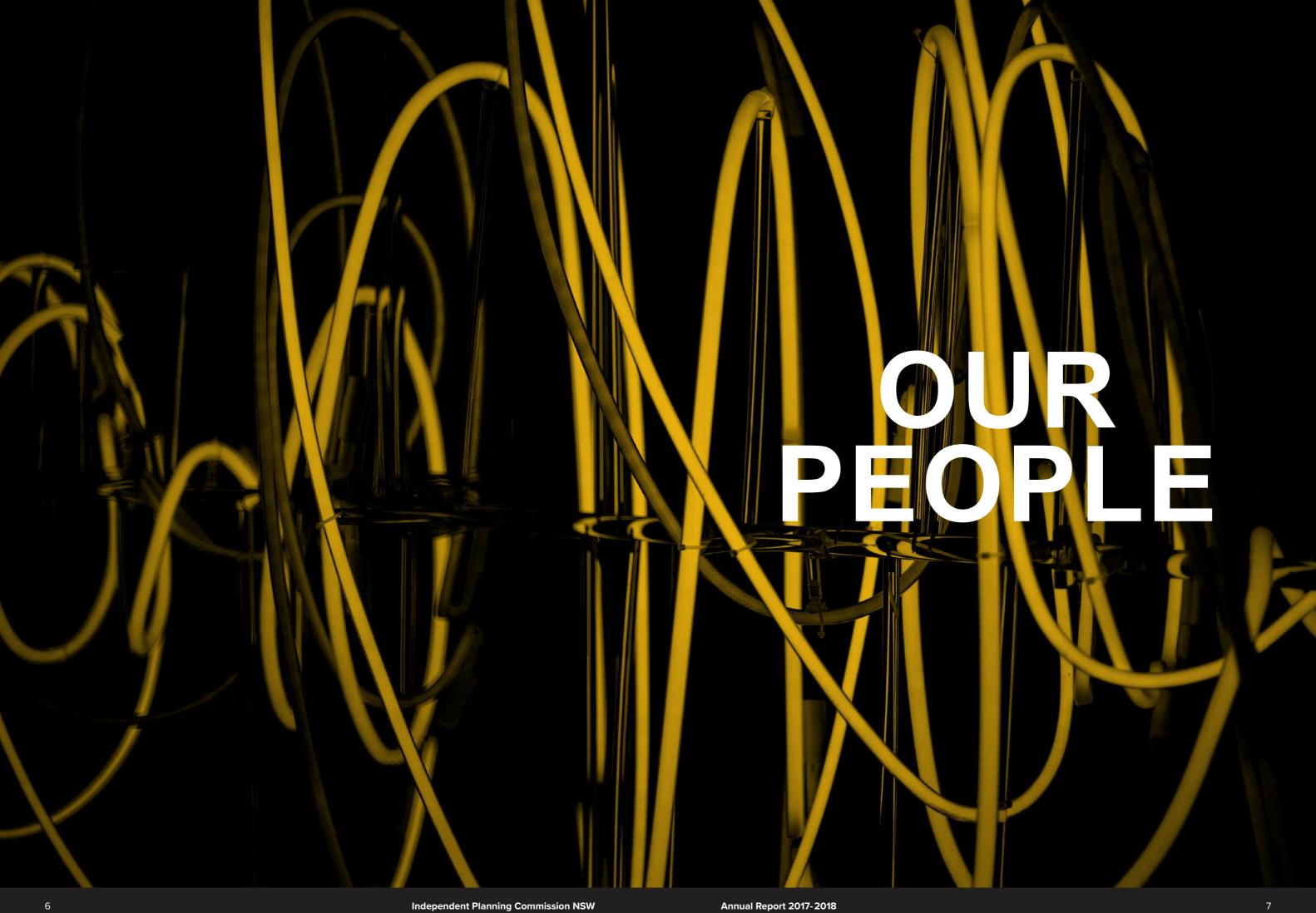
The Commission's shared values of engagement, independence and expertise are reflected in the way its members and Secretariat staff act and carry out their duties.

**Independence:** We will build the community's confidence and trust in the Commission's independence by ensuring our processes are open and transparent, and encouraging and promoting greater community participation throughout the assessment and determination process.

**Expertise:** We will draw on the considerable experience, expertise and knowledge of our members in planning and related fields to enhance the capabilities of the Commission to best serve the people of NSW.

Engagement: We seek to encourage and promote greater community participation early in the planning assessment process. We acknowledge and respect there will be differences of opinion on planning projects and take seriously the concerns expressed to us by individuals and groups in affected communities.





## **OUR PEOPLE**

# COMMISSION STRUCTURE AND MEMBERS

#### **Constitution of the Commission**

The Minister for Planning appoints Members of the Commission including the Chair.

Under section 2.8 of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*:

"Each member is to have expertise in at least one area of planning, architecture, heritage, the environment, urban design, land economics, soil or agricultural science, hydro-geology, mining or petroleum development, traffic and transport, law, engineering, tourism or government and public administration.

In appointing a member of the Commission, the Minister is to have regard to the need to have a range of expertise represented among the Commission's members.

The Minister may appoint additional members of the Commission for the purposes of exercising specific functions of the Commission. An additional member is not required to have expertise in an area referred to in this section but is required to have expertise in an area relevant to the functions the member is to exercise."

Members are appointed to the Commission for three-year terms but cannot serve more than six years in total.

# Constitution of the Commission for each matter

The Chair of the Commission appoints members to constitute the Commission for each development application or planning matter.

When appointing Members to a Panel to determine a particular development application or provide advice on a planning matter, the Chair will ordinarily take the following matters into account:

- (where possible) ensuring gender balance on panels, particularly for matters where a public meeting or public hearing are being held, and
- ensuring there is a balance of Members with:

- broad governance skills, including leadership experience
- a good understanding of the NSW planning process (including the *Environmental Planning* and Assessment Act 1979), and
- technical experience relevant to the case

Generally, the Chair will appoint:

- at least two members, for:
- the carrying out of a public hearing
- the determination of a development application, or
- the making of a local environmental plan
- at least one member, for:
- the determination of a modification application
- the making of an order to amend an environmental planning instrument, or
- preparing expert advice to the Minister or Secretary of the Department
- the same members to determine an application that were appointed to carry out a public hearing for it unless they are unavailable for any reason.

According to the Act, "the Chair of the Commission is authorised to nominate another member of the Commission to appoint members to constitute the Commission for a matter – and may do so, as required, for any reason."

#### **Commissioners in 2017-18**

The makeup of the Commission has changed significantly over the past year with the departure of several experienced Members and the arrival of several new appointments. Also, the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel became a sub-committee of the Commission.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 provide names of Commission and Sub-Committee members and their length of service.

As at 30 June 2018, 38% of the Commissioners were female.

Appendix 1 provides more information about current Commissioners.

There was a change of Commission Chair this year with Ms Lynelle Briggs AO finishing as Chair of the Planning Assessment Commission on 31 January 2018. Professor Mary O'Kane AC commenced as Chair on 1 February 2018.

Table 1 Members of the Independent Planning Commission 1 March - 30 June 2018. Those in bold finished in 2017-18.

Members	Period of service
Professor Mary O'Kane AC, Chair	1 February 2018 –
Ms Carol Austin	1 August 2017 –
Mr Ross Carter	3 May 2015 —
Mr Soo-Tee Cheong	1 November 2017 –
Mr Peter Cochrane	1 August 2017 –
Mr Alan Coutts	15 November 2013 –
Mr Peter Duncan AM	1 August 2017 –
Mr Paul Forward	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018
Ms Abigail Goldberg	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018
Mr John Hann	3 May 2015 —
Mr Andrew Hutton	3 May 2015 —
Mr David Johnson	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018
Mr Gordon Kirkby	17 February 2014 –
Ms Robyn Kruk AO	3 November 2014 –
Ms Dianne Leeson	1 August 2017 –
Professor Zada Lipman	3 May 2015 –
Professor Helen Lochhead	1 August 2017 –
Professor Richard Mackay AM	1 August 2017 –
Ms Ilona Millar	3 May 2015 –
Mr Russell Miller AM	1 August 2017 –
Mr Steve O'Connor	3 May 2015 –
	1 August 2017 –
Mr Tony Pearson	
Mr Tony Pearson  Ms Annabelle Pegrum AM	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018
<u> </u>	

## **OUR PEOPLE**

Table 2 Members of the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel, now a sub-committee of the Commission.

Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel				
Members	Period of service			
Professor Snow Barlow, Chair	1 October 2017 –			
Professor Alice Clark	1 October 2017 –			
Mr George Gates	1 June 2016 –			
Ms Catherine Hird	1 October 2017 –			
Dr lan Lavering	4 June 2016 –			
Mr Geoff Sharrock	1 October 2017 –			
Mr Brett Whelan	1 June 2016 –			
Professor Garry Willgoose	1 June 2016 –			

Table 3 Members of the former Planning Assessment Commission from 1 July 2017 - 28 February 2018, when it was replaced by the IPC. Those in bold finished in 2017-18.

NSW Planning Assessment Commission				
Members	Period of service			
Ms Lynelle Briggs AO, Chair	1 June 2014 – 31 January 2018			
Professor Mary O'Kane AC, Chair	1 February 2018 – 28 February 2018			
Ms Carol Austin	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Mr Ross Carter	3 May 2015 – 28 February2018			
Mr Soo-Tee Cheong	1 November 2017 – 28 February 2018			
Mr Peter Cochrane	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Mr Alan Coutts	15 November 2013 – 28 February2018			
Mr Peter Duncan AM	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Mr Maurice Evans	3 May 2015 – 2 May 2018			
Mr Roger Fisher	3 November 2015 – 1 February 2018			
Mr Paul Forward	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018			
Ms Abigail Goldberg	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018			
Mr John Hann	3 May 2015 – 28 February2018			
Mr Andrew Hutton	3 May 2015 – 28 February2018			
Mr David Johnson	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018			
Mr Gordon Kirkby	17 February 2014 – 28 February2018			

NSW Planning Assessment Commission				
Members	Period of service			
Ms Robyn Kruk AO	3 November 2014 – 28 February2018			
Ms Dianne Leeson	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Dr Marcus Lincoln-Smith	3 May 2015 – 2 May 2018			
Professor Zada Lipman	3 May 2015 – 28 February2018			
Professor Helen Lochhead	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Professor Richard Mackay AM	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Ms Ilona Millar	3 May 2015 – 28 February2018			
Mr Russell Miller AM	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Mr Steve O'Connor	3 May 2015 – 28 February2018			
Mr Tony Pearson	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Ms Annabelle Pegrum AM	3 May 2012 – 2 May 2018			
Ms Annelise Tuor	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			
Dr Peter Williams	1 August 2017 – 28 February2018			

### **Managing Conflicts**

The Commission strives to be independent, informed, consistent and transparent it its decision-making processes. Accordingly, it maintains a high standard of Conflict of Interest disclosure both in general and with reference to particular cases being dealt with by the Commission. Full details are provided on the Commission's website.

### **Commissioner Induction and Meetings**

The Commission provides an induction pack and specialised training for new Members to explain the Commission's organisational structure, policies and procedures, and day-to-day operations.

Commission Members meet quarterly to discuss issues arising from recent projects, lessons learned, planning issues and policies relevant to their work. Briefings on policy developments and training on specialised aspects of the Commission's operations are also provided at these meetings.

## **The Secretariat**

The Commission's Secretariat and support services are provided by the Department of Planning & Environment under a Memorandum of Understanding between the two agencies. As at 30 June 2018, there were 13 people in the Secretariat, all employees of the Department of Planning & Environment.

Two important new Secretariat roles were created this year and the following appointments were made:

- Anna Summerhayes was appointed Legal Counsel
- Troy Deighton was appointed Principal
   Public Affairs Officer.



## **OUR POLICIES & PERFORMANCE**

# RECENT POLICY AND PROCEDURAL CHANGES

The changeover from the Planning Assessment Commission to the Independent Planning Commission in March this year and the Auditor-General's report on the Commission's functional performance of January 2017 presented opportunities for the Commission to reflect on its policies and procedures, with a view to how it could do things better – ensuring it always maintains a community focus.

To that end, the Commission has undertaken considerable consultation and engagement with key stakeholders, including state and local government, industry bodies and environmental action groups, to seek their input on how it could improve its processes to build community confidence in the decisions it makes.

As a direct result of their constructive feedback, the Commission has adopted several new policies and made significant changes to others with the aim of being more open and transparent.

Notably, the Commission has introduced new:

- Public Hearing Guidelines
- Public Meeting Guidelines
- Site Inspection and Locality Tour Guidelines
- Policy on Meeting Records

It has also reviewed its:

- · Code of Conduct
- · Conflict of Interest Policy
- · Complaints Management Policy

Some of the important practical changes the Commission has made recently, include:

- The use of a 'Counsel Assisting' to assist the Commission in the conduct of Public Hearings and Public Meetings for projects, when and where it is deemed necessary
- Recording all public hearings and public meetings with transcripts published on our website
- Development of a 'Statement of Reasons' template for Commission Reports.

On 6 February, the Chair provided an update on progress on implementation of the Auditor-General's

recommendations in response to a request by the Chair of the Legislative Assembly Public Accounts Committee.

## **PERFORMANCE**

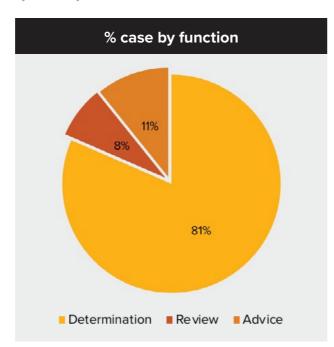
#### Caseload

In the 2017-18 financial year, the Commission worked on a total of 65 new cases:

- 53 development proposals for determination, comprising
- · five development proposals for review, and
- seven planning matters for advice

The chart in **Figure 1** shows the breakdown of new Commission cases by statutory function in 2017-18.

Figure 1 Commission caseload broken down by statutory function 2017-18.



In addition, there were four cases (i.e. three determinations and one review) which were not completed by 30 June 2017 and, therefore, carried forward into this reporting period.

Of the 53 development proposals the Commission worked on:

- 41 were approved after the Commission most conditions of consent
- four were refused

- · two were withdrawn
- six were still under consideration as of 30 June 2018.

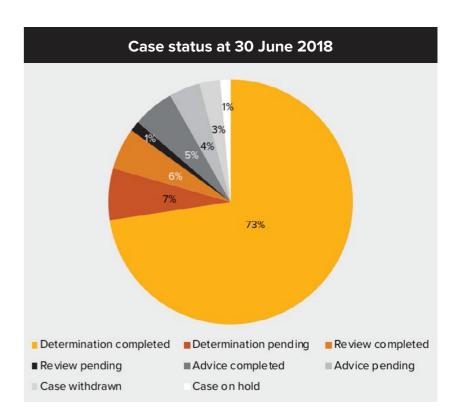
Five cases were referred to the Commission for review, with four of those completed and one pending completion as of 30 June 2018.

Seven requests for advice were received by the Commission, with four of those completed and three pending completion as of 30 June 2018.

The chart in **Figure 2** shows the status of Commission cases at 30 June 2018.

A full list of cases finalised is given in Appendix 2.

Figure 2 The status of Commission cases as at 30 June 2018.





The Commission introduced new public hearing and public meeting guidelines in 2017-18 to encourage greater community participation in its decision-making processes.

## **OUR POLICIES & PERFORMANCE**

## **Public Hearings and Meetings**

Public hearings/meetings provide the Commission an opportunity to listen to the community's views about a major development application or planning matter.

Public hearings are held when and only when the Commission is directed to hold one by the Minister. When a public hearing is held, merit appeal rights are generally extinguished.

Under the Act, the Minister or the Greater Sydney Commission may formally ask the Commission to hold a public hearing in relation to a development application or any other planning matter at any time. If such a request is made, the Commission must hold a public hearing, it is not discretionary.

The Act does not require the Commission to hold a public meeting before determining an application; however, it may choose to do so based on the level of interest in a project.

The Commission held two public hearings and 19 public meetings during the 2017-18 financial year.

The Commission held public hearings in relation to the following projects:

- United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project / MOD 3 / MOD 16 (Singleton)
- Rix's Creek Coal Mine Extension Project (Singleton)

Public meetings were held in relation to the following projects:

- Cultural Events Site Concept Plan MOD 2 / Cultural Events Site Project Approval MOD 4 (Byron)
- Modification to Edmondson Park South Concept Plan MOD 4 (Liverpool)
- Wallarah 2 Coal Project (Wyong)
- Modification to Fern Bay Project Approval MOD 9 (Port Stephens)
- Mixed Use Development, 80-88 Regent St, Redfern (Sydney)
- Kurnell Refinery Conversion Works MOD 2 (Sutherland)
- Modification to Clare Hotel Block 3A Central Park Project Approval (Sydney)
- Beryl Solar Farm (Mid Western Regional)
- Rocky Hill Coal Project (Gloucester)
- Invincible Colliery Southern Extension Modification MOD 5 (Lithgow)

- Waste Recycling and Transfer Facility, Smeaton Grange (Camden)
- Wambo Coal Project MOD 17 (Singleton)
- Mortdale Resource Recovery Facility (Hurstville)
- Moorebank Intermodal Precinct East Stage 2 / Moorebank Intermodal Precinct East Concept Plan MOD 2 (Liverpool)
- Hunter Valley Operations South MOD 5 (Singleton)
- Cabbage Tree Road Sand Quarry (Port Stephens)
- Bango Wind Farm (Yass Valley)
- Woolooware Bay Town Centre Concept Plan MOD 2 / Woolooware Bay Town Centre Project Approval MOD 6 (Sutherland)
- Eastern Creek Energy from Waste Facility (Blacktown)

#### **Timeframes**

The Commission's average processing time for determinations with a public meeting was 62 calendar days in 2017-18.

Proposals that do not require a public meeting can be determined much faster with some only requiring a handful of days to complete.

The average processing time for projects referred to the Commission for determination because a local council had objected was 18 calendar days; while it took the Commission, on average, seven calendar days to determine projects which had been referred to it because there had been a reportable political donation.

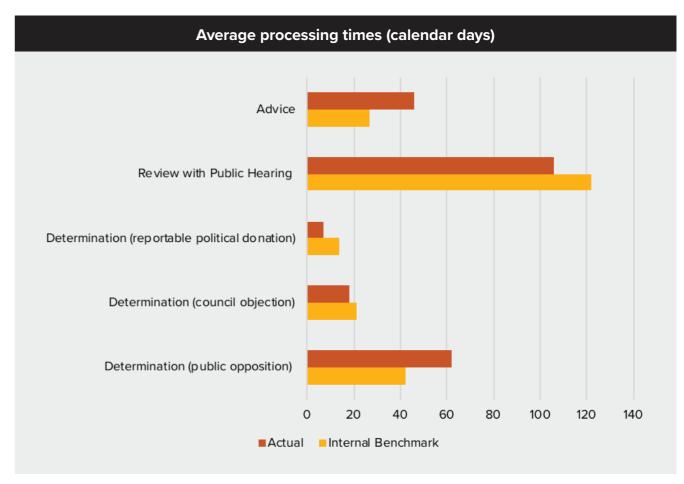
The Commission's average processing time for reviews was 106 calendar days, which included a public hearing for all reviews. This is well within the government target timeframe.

The Commission's average processing time for advice was 46 calendar days.

On average, the Commission overshoots its internal benchmarks for determinations where there is significant public opposition and on advice matters; however, it beats its benchmarks for other determinations and on reviews with public hearings. That said, some of the data samples are small and therefore not reliable as predictors of the future.

The chart in **Figure 3** shows the average processing time for cases by function type in 2017-18.

Figure 3 Average processing times for Commission cases by function type 2017-18.





## **OUR CASES**

#### **Location of Cases**

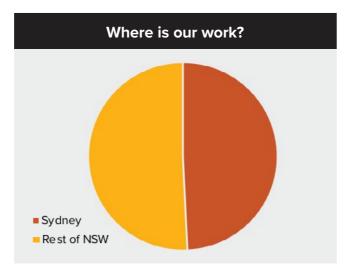
The Commission's work has again been spread right across New South Wales – although most Commission cases are centred on the Sydney and Hunter Regions.

Of the 65 projects the Commission worked on in 2017-18, 32 were in the Sydney metropolitan area and 33 were in regional and rural NSW. The chart in **Figure 4** shows this breakdown of Commission cases.

**Figure 5** illustrates the geographic spread of projects that the Commission assessed, reviewed and determined in 2017-18.

Figure 5 The Commission's work was spread across much of NSW in 2017-18.





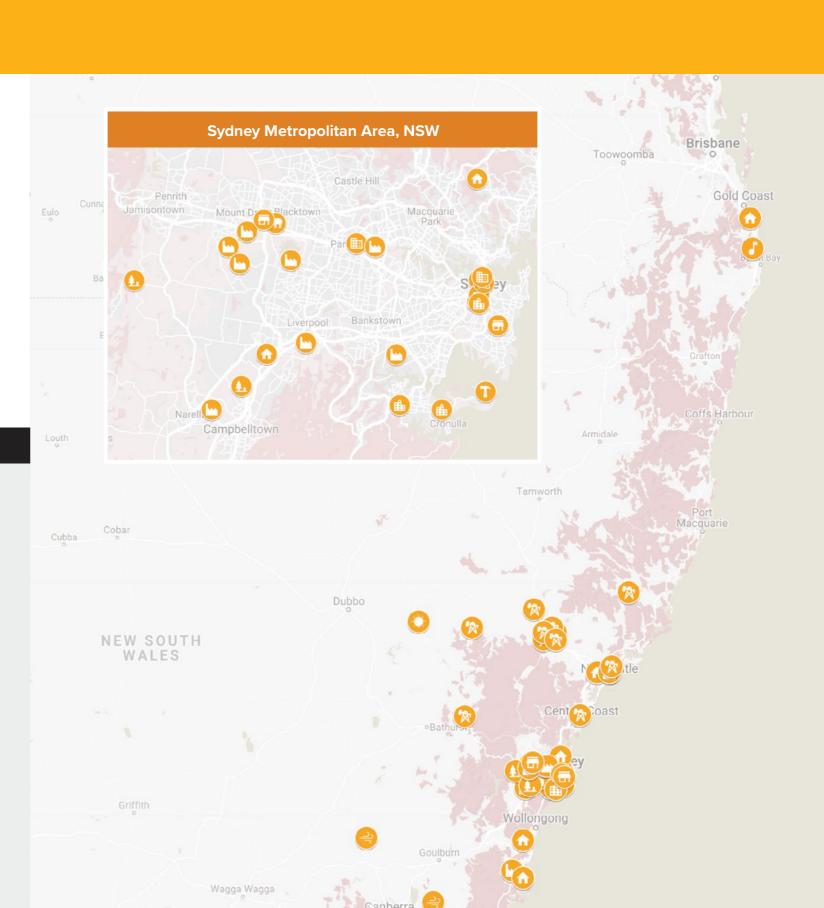
## **Projects 2017-18**

- Bylong Coal Project
- The Sydney Zoo
- The Dan Land Residential Subdivision
- Cultural Events
  Site Concept Plan
  Modifications
- Buildings R4A & R4B
  Barangaroo South
- Modification for Cobaki
  Estate Concept Approval
- Shoalhaven Starches
  Project Modifications
- Concept Plan
- BlueScope Steel Paint Line
- Facility Modification
- Integra Underground Coal
  Mine Modification
- Mount Owen Continuation Project
- Wallarah 2 Coal Project
- Modification to Fern Bay Project Approval
- Wetherill Park Transfer Station SSD

- Modification to Kirrawee Brick Pit Concept Approval
- Mixed Use Development, Redfern
- Kurnell Refinery Conversion Works Modification
- Modification to Clare Hotel
  Block 3A Central Park
  Project Approval
- O Beryl Solar Farm
- Rocky Hill Coal Project
- Request for rezoning review 4-6 Bligh Street, Sydney
- Invincible Colliery
  Southern Extension
  Modification
- Request for advice
  Stage 1 SSD application Martin Place
- Waste Recycling and Transfer Facility Smeaton Range
- Wambo Coal Project
  Modification
- Mortdale Resource
  Recover Facility

- Moorebank Intermodal
  Precinct Concept Plan
  Modification
- Port Waratah Coal Services
  Terminal 4 Modification
- Hunter Valley Operations
  South Modification
- Mixed Use Development 68-72 Gloucester St The Rocks
- Request to rezone land at the western end of Ralston Ave, Belrose
- Request for Gateway Review for 197 & 202 Church Street and 89 Marsden Street, Parramatta
- Cabbage Tree Road
  Sand Quarry
- Jupiter Wind Farm
- Bango Wind Farm
- Calderwood Concept Plan Approval Modification
- Ministerial call-in request Viva Clyde Western Area Remediation Project

- Woolooware Bay Town Centre Concept Plan Modification
- Former Rachel Forster
  Hospital Concept /
  Project Modification
- Eastern Creek Energy From Waste Facility SSD
- Rix's Creek Coal Mine Extension Project
- Mount Pleasant Coal Mine Extension of Life Project
- Crown Cemetery and
  Crematoria Development
  Wallacia
- Crown Cemetery and
  Crematoria Development
  Varroville
- Eastlakes Shopping Centre
  Project Approval
- Sigma Pharmaceutical
  Warehouse and
  Distribution Facility
  Modification
- Eastern Creek Business
   Hub Retail Centre
- West Culburra Concept
  Proposal



21

## **OUR CASES**

## Type of cases

The Commission has worked on a broad range of cases in 2017-18 but are generally classified as one of the following:

- Resources (e.g. gas extraction, mining)
- Urban development (Sydney Metro or Regional/Rural)
- Industrial
- Infrastructure (e.g. solar farm, wind farm, gas pipeline, hospital)
- Other

The chart in **Figure 6** shows the Commission's 2017-18 caseload broken down by type and statutory function.

The Commission's work has focussed on 27 NSW local government areas in 2017-18. The chart in **Figure 7** shows the Commission's caseload broken down by LGA and case type.



Commission Members on a site inspection and locality tour for a proposed development near Nowra, on the NSW South Coast.

Figure 6 Commission's caseload by type and statutory function in 2017-18.

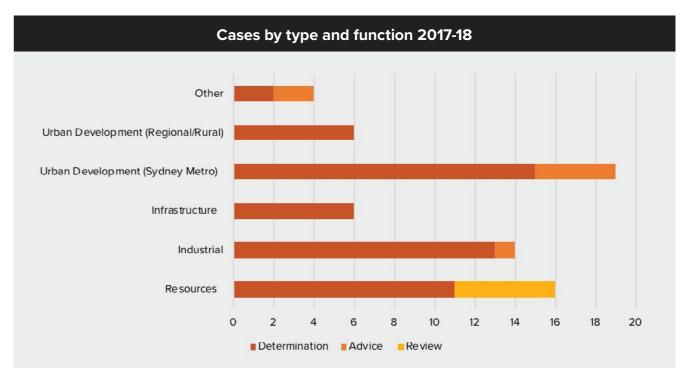
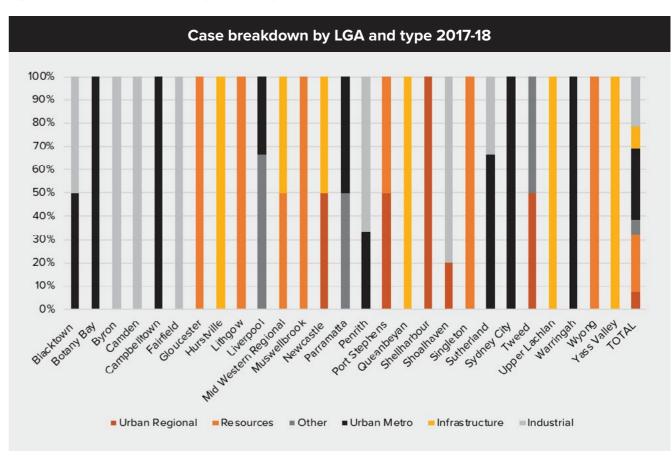
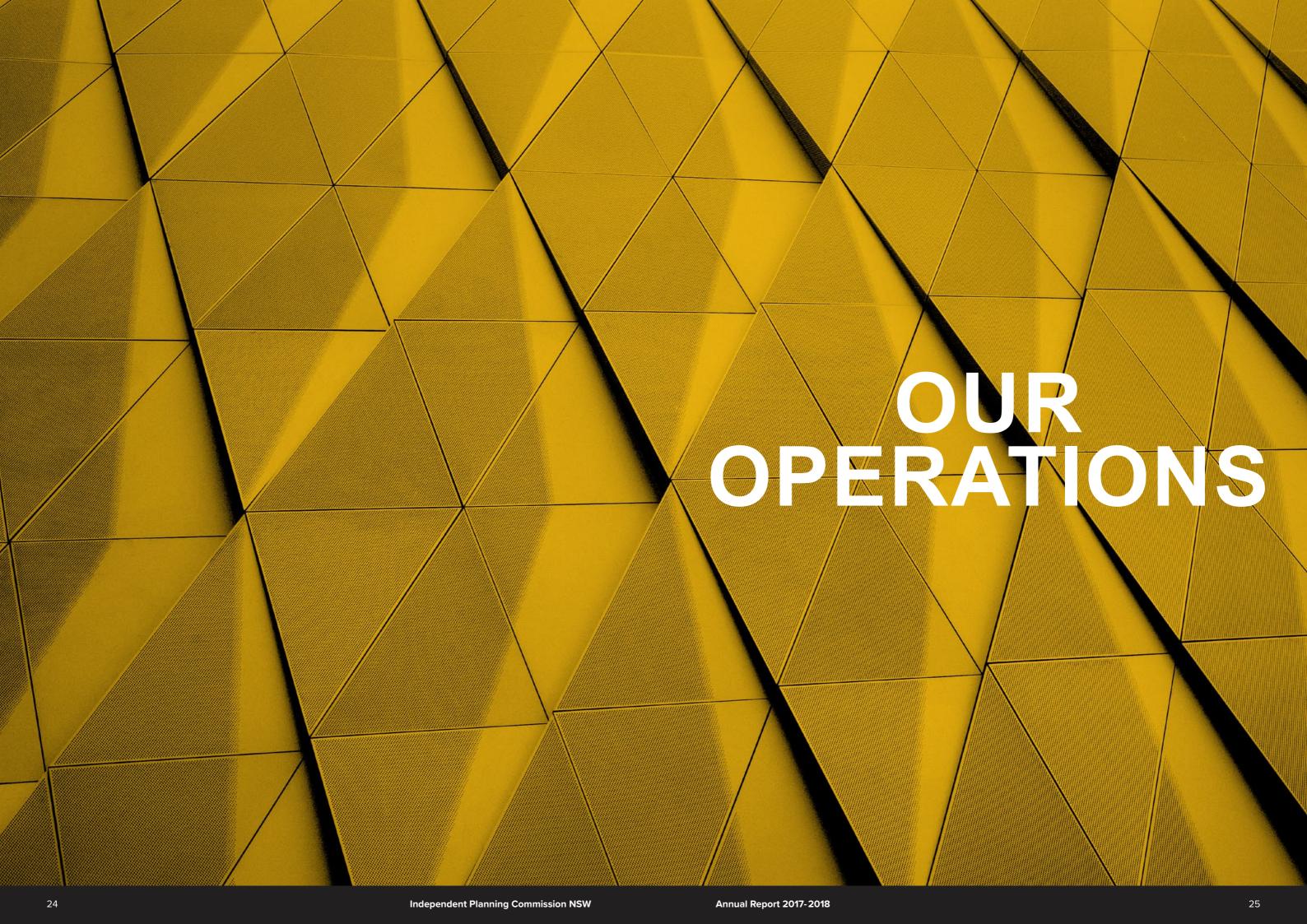


Figure 7 Commission's caseload by LGA and type in 2017-18.



23



## **OUR OPERATIONS**

## **FINANCES**

The Department of Planning & Environment manages the Commission's finances. The Department's audited financial statements include the Commission.

## **GIPA ACT REQUESTS**

The Commission received seven formal requests under the Government Information (Public Access) Act 2009 during 2017-18. See Table 4.

## **COMPLAINTS**

Two formal complaints were received regarding process or procedure during the 2017-18 year. See Table 5.

The Commission appreciates public feedback on its processes and considers them carefully in accordance with its 'Complaints Management Policy', available on its website.

Table 4 Requests under the GIPA Act 2009 received in 2017-18.

Project / Subject	Date received	Applicant	Acknowledged	Due	Response sent	Status
Wilpinjong Extension Project (SSD 6764)	27-Jul-17	EDO NSW	01-Aug-17	24-Aug-17	23-Aug-17	CLOSED
Gunlake Quarry	28-Aug-17	Corrs	01-Sep-17	15-Sep-17	15-Sep-17	CLOSED
Gunlake Quarry	18-Jun-18	Corrs	25-Jun-18	16-Jul-18	16-Jul-18	CLOSED
Rocky Hill	11-May-18	McCullough Robertson Lawyers	15-May-18	26-Oct-18	7-Jun-18 (Original decision)	OPEN
Watermark Coal Project	24-Apr-18	Andrew Beatty Legal	27-Apr-18	22-May-18	10-May-18	CLOSED
Bylong	13-Apr-18	Mr B Tobin	11-May-18	11-May-18	11-May-18	CLOSED
IPC expenditure on travel etc over five- year period	13-Apr-18	Mr G Miskelly, Australian Broadcasing Corporation	04-May-18	22-Jun-18	6-Jul-18	CLOSED

Table 5 Formal complaints received by the Commission in 2017-18.

Project / Subject	Date received	Complainant	Action taken	Response sent	Status	
Cultural Events Site, Yelgun	27-Sep-17	S Arnold	Complaint investigated. Response sent to complainant.	23-Aug-17	CLOSED	
Commission	26-Mar-18	Dr M Crawford	IPC received a number of	Last response	CLOSED	
3-Δnr-18   Dr M Crawford	complaints from Dr Crawford over a three-month period. The IPC sent	sent to Dr Crawford on	CLOSED			
(c) of Schedule 2 of EP&A	4-Apr-18	Dr M Crawford	the matter to ICAC on 31 May 2018	31 May 2018 advising him	CLOSED	
Regulation in	30-Apr-18	Dr M Crawford				CLOSED
relation to Wind Farm projects	13-May-18	Dr M Crawford	the Commission which stated that referred his ICAC "determined not to take any complaint to		CLOSED	
, ,	Dr M Crawford	action".	ICAC.	CLOSED		

It should be noted that objections to a development proposal or comments on the outcome of a project are not considered as formal complaints for complaints handling and management purposes. Rather they are dealt with as part of the applicable determination or advice process that applies to the relevant matter.

## **PRIVACY**

The Commission's 'Privacy Statement' is published on its website. The statement explains how the Commission obtains and uses personal information.

## **LEGAL PROCEEDINGS**

There were a number of legal actions in relation to determinations made by the Commission which were finalised in 2017-18. See Table 6.

## **OTHER INFORMATION**

Much of the information held by the Commission is available on its website, including the following:

- · Code of Conduct
- Procedural guidelines
- Media releases
- Directions from the Minister
- Notices of public hearings
- Submissions / written comments on projects
- Commission reports including advice, public hearing reports and determinations
- Past annual reports

Other information may be made available on request as detailed in the Commission's Access to Information document, available on its website.

27

Table 6 Legal proceedings in 2017-18 relating to determinations made by the Commission.

Case	Project	Commission Determination Date	Class of Appeal	LEC/CoA Decision	Court Decision Date
Residents Against Intermodal Development Moorebank Incorporated v Minister for Planning [2018] NSWLEC 1130	Moorebank Intermodal Terminal (Qube Holdings)	12 December 2016	Class 1	Appeal upheld	6 March 2018
Liverpool City Council v Moorebank Recyclers Pty Ltd [2018] NSWCA 7	Moorebank Materials Recycling Facility	11 September 2015	Class 4	Court of Appeal decision dismissed the appeals with costs	7 February 2018
Platinum Property Advisors Pty Ltd v Minister for Planning [2018] NSWLEC 1138	Mixed Use Development at 175 to 177 Cleveland Street and 1 to 5 Woodburn Street Redfern Cleveland St	20 February 2017	Class 1	Settled with leave granted to Platinum Property Advisors to rely on amended plans (s.34)	22 March 2018
Gunlake Quarries Pty Limited v Minister for Planning [2017] NSWLEC 1342	Gunlake Quarry Extension Project	5 April 2017	Class 1	Settled with the appeal upheld via a section 34 Conciliation	30 June 2017
Wollar Progress Association Incorporated v Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd & Minister for Planning [2018] NSWLEC 92	Wilpinjong Extension Project	24 April 2017	Class 4	Appeal dismissed with costs	19 June 2018



### **Members of the Commission 2017-18**



## Mary O'Kane AC, Chair of the Commission

Professor Mary O'Kane is the Chair of the Independent Planning Commission, a company director, and Executive Chairman of O'Kane Associates, a Sydney-based consulting practice specialising in government reviews and research and innovation matters.

She is also Chair of the boards of the Cooperative Research Centre for Spatial Information, the Space Environment Management Cooperative Research Centre and the Institute of Marine and Antarctic Studies at the University of Tasmania. As well, she is a director of the Capital Markets Cooperative Research Centre and the Innovative Manufacturing Cooperative Research Centre.

Professor O'Kane was NSW Chief Scientist & Engineer from 2008-2018. She was Vice-Chancellor of the University of Adelaide from 1996-2001. She is a former Chair of the board of the Australian Centre for Renewable Energy, a former member of the Commonwealth's Review of the National Innovation System, the Australian Research Council and the Cooperative Research Centres Committee, the board of FH Faulding & Co Ltd and the board of CSIRO. She is a fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering and an Honorary Fellow of Engineers Australia.

She has been Chair of the Independent Planning Commission since February 2018.



#### **Ross Carter**

Ross Carter has over 30 years of experience in the design and implementation of policy and regulation. His experience traverses a wide spectrum of environmental management spheres including environment protection, biodiversity conservation, natural resource management, energy, energy efficiency, climate change, and Aboriginal cultural heritage.

His roles have ranged from field-based regulatory operations in rural and regional areas to senior executive positions at both state and national levels. His senior executive roles have included key leadership, governance and decision-making roles in significant independent regulatory institutions, for example as Executive Director Sydney Region with the NSW EPA and

as Executive General Manager Reporting and Carbon Markets with the Australian Clean Energy Regulator.

Ross holds a Bachelor of Applied Science, a Graduate Diploma in Environmental Management, and a Master of Science with Distinction in environmental management (for research into regulatory practice at the University of Otago).

Ross is a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and is accredited as an Independent Commissioner under the NZ Resource Management Act.

He has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2015.



## Lynelle Briggs AO, Chair of the former PAC

Lynelle Briggs AO has a distinguished career in public administration, policy, strategy, regulation and operations.

Her areas of expertise include: transport, infrastructure, health and safety, insurance, superannuation, and public sector ethics, leadership and governance.

She is currently an Independent Director of Maritime Super, Chair of the General

Insurance Code Governance Committee and an Independent Director of Goodstart Early Learning.

Lynelle is the former Australian Public Service Commissioner, former Deputy Secretary in the Federal Department of Transport and Regional Services, and former CEO of Medicare.

She was Chair of the Planning Assessment Commission from 1 June 2014 to 31 January 2018.



## **Soo-Tee Cheong**

Soo-Tee Cheong is an architect and urban planner.

A fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects, he has over 45 years' experience in architecture and planning design as well as building construction and property development.

He was the chair of Design Review Panel of Botany Bay City Council for 17 years from 1999 to 2017. Soo-Tee has sat on the board of Directors of various mining and resources companies.

He is a former Deputy Mayor, Councillor of Lane Cove Council.

Soo-Tee has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since November 2017.



#### **Carol Austin**

Carol Austin has tertiary qualifications in Economics and Science. Over the past 30 years, she has held Senior Management/Chief Economist roles in the finance industry in both the public and private sectors.

She has also served on a number of boards including the Future Fund, the Tasmanian Public Finance Corporation and the Port of Melbourne Authority.

Carol is currently a director of HSBC Bank Australia and the Grattan Institute.

She has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



#### **Peter Cochrane**

Peter Cochrane was Director of National Parks and head of Parks Australia from 1999-2013.

From 1994-99 he was Deputy Executive Director of the Australian Petroleum Production and Exploration Association. Peter is currently a director of Ecotourism Australia, Tangaroa Blue Foundation and Earthwatch Australia Institute.

Peter chairs the Steering Committee of the National Environmental Science Program's Marine Biodiversity Hub, the board of the Australian Tropical Herbarium and the Blue Mountains World Heritage Institute. He is a member of the Steering Group of the Protected Area Learning and Research Collaboration, and the National Benefit Assessment Panel for the Marine National Facility. He was elected in 2016 as a member of the Council and Bureau of the International Union for Conservation of Nature based in Switzerland.

Peter has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



#### Alan Coutts

Alan Coutts worked for over 35 years in the NSW public sector and has extensive experience in the resources, energy and infrastructure sectors.

Alan has held a number of Director General and Chief Executive Officer positions including Director General of the Department of Transport, Director General of the Department of Mineral Resources and CEO of the Rural Assistance Authority and the NSW Food Authority.

He has also held a number of board appointments including the State Rail Authority, State Transit Authority, Coal Compensation Board, Mine Subsidence Board and Rural Assistance Authority.

Alan has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2013.



## Roger Fisher

Roger Fisher is an experienced executive and consultant with experience over many years advising governments on transport, infrastructure, agriculture, natural resources and other issues.

He was a senior executive in the Commonwealth public service, and has worked as a consultant for LECG and ACIL Allen Consulting.

Roger is currently the Managing Director of Pegasus Economics. He is a chartered member of the Institute of Logistics and Transport Australia.

Rogr was a member of the Commission from 3 November 2015 to 1 February 2018.



#### Peter Duncan AM

Peter Duncan AM has over 40 years' experience in transport and infrastructure working at local, state and national levels.

He has held various senior public sector roles including in local government, Premier and Cabinet, Primary Industries and for the Olympic Coordination Authority.

Peter has worked as Chief Executive in areas such as roads, infrastructure, forestry, parks, maritime, technology and services. He currently chairs the Australian Road Research Board and is an independent chair within the University

of Sydney and NSW Corrective Services.

Peter is also an advisor to the Victorian State
Government on infrastructure and delivery
as a member of the Office of Projects Victoria
board and was member of the Commonwealth
Transport and Infrastructure Council for
five years.

Peter is a National Fellow of Institute of Public Administration Australia and a Companion of The Institution of Engineers Australia.

He has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



### **Paul Forward**

Paul Forward has over 40 years of senior level experience in both the private and public sectors, including the Tertiary Sector with specific experience in transport, water industries and land use planning.

He is a qualified economist and town planner, with postgraduate qualifications in both disciplines, with a Master of Commerce (Economics from UNSW) and a Master of Science (Planning from the University of London).

Paul commenced his career as a Lecturer in Economics at UNSW, was Chief Executive of the

Roads and Traffic Authority for six years, and was a Principle at Evans and Peck from 2006 to 2013.

He has held various other positions including Chair of AUSTROADS, Chair of AgriBio (the Bio Science Research Centre based at La Trobe University) and Executive Director at Sydney Water.

Paul was a member of the Commission from 3 May 2012 to 2 May 2018.



## **Dr Maurice Evans**

Dr Maurice Evans holds a unique combination of higher academic and professional qualifications and experience as an architect, planning, academic and barrister specialising in commercial, administrative, property, construction, environmental, planning, heritage, valuation and related law.

As a practicing barrister he is briefed as Counsel for numerous key government, institutional,

corporate and private client matters in the NSW Supreme Court, Land and Environment Court and Court of Appeal, and presides in Arbitrations referred by nominators including the District and Local Courts and the NSW Bar Association.

Maurice was a member of the Commission from 3 May 2015 to 2 May 2018.



### Abigail Goldberg

Abigail Goldberg has over 30 years of experience in planning, property, infrastructure and transport across both the private and public sectors.

She was formerly CEO of Metro Transport Sydney, General Manager of South Sydney Development Corporation and Assistant Director of the Urban Design Advisory Service. Abigail currently serves as a Chair and Non Executive Director on several boards, and is also an Associate of the UTS Centre for Excellence in Local Government.

She was a member of the Commission from 3 May 2012 to 2 May 2018



#### John Hann

John Hann has over 30 years' experience in land use and resource planning, covering both the public & private sectors.

He is a Churchill Fellow and former construction materials Industry Association Planning Chair.

For the past 15 years John has focused on statutory approval processes across the broad

range of Australian jurisdictions, including environmental assessment, indigenous relationships & community engagement.

John has been a Member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2015.



#### **Andrew Hutton**

Andrew Hutton is the Managing Director of Integrated Environmental Management Australia (IEMA). IEMA was founded in 2018 by Andrew Hutton after having had 25 years' experience in both operations and consulting.

Prior to starting IEMA Andrew was an Executive Manager of SLR Australia Consulting Pty Ltd, responsible for the strategic management of the Mining and Minerals sector business across the Asia Pacific region.

Andrew has almost 25 years of experience in the mining industry, including experience in both operational roles and consulting. Andrew has worked on many projects within the mining, coal seam gas and agricultural sectors both here in Australia and overseas.

Prior to joining SLR in 2012 through a mergeracquisition, Andrew was the Principal Consultant and General Manager of GSS Environmental (GSSE) for 10 years. In this role, he led the organisation building the firm into a multi-disciplinary environmental consultancy of 50 people based in Newcastle, Mackay and also in Sydney.

In the early part of his career Andrew worked with a number of public and privately-owned mining companies based in the Hunter Valley and Queensland.

Andrew has been a member of the Commission since 2015.



### **David Johnson**

David Johnson is a geologist and environmental scientist with over 30 years of experience in environmental assessment & management, site investigation & remediation, pollution control and environmental monitoring, audits and compliance.

He is a part-time university lecturer in environmental science, was previously an

Acting Commissioner in the Land & Environment Court and a former Principal and founding director of a specialist consulting firm in Sydney.

He is a Fellow of the Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand.

David served on the Commission from 3 May 2012 to 2 May 2018.



## **Gordon Kirkby**

Gordon Kirkby has over 25 years of experience in planning and environmental impact assessment in both the State Government and the private sector.

For the past decade, he has been a Director of a major urban development services consultancy.

He is the Chair of the Western NSW Joint Regional Planning Panel.

Gordon has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2014.



## Robyn Kruk AO

Robyn Kruk AO has broad experience at chief and senior executive level both in the State and Commonwealth sectors.

She has represented NSW in Commonwealth/ State negotiations relating to intergovernmental reform in areas including environmental sustainability, biodiversity, health, housing, forestry and climate change.

Robyn has developed and implemented legislation relating to water resources management and reform at both state and national levels, environmental planning and assessment, major project approvals and endangered species protection.

She has held statutory and regulatory responsibility for health and environmental

matters and major projects at State and national level.

Robyn was the CEO and Commissioner of the National Mental Health Commission; Secretary of the Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities (Australian Government); Secretary of Department of Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (Australian Government); Director General of the Department of Premier and Cabinet (NSW Government), Director General of NSW Health and Director General of National Parks and Wildlife Service.

She has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2014.



## **Dianne Leeson**

Dianne Leeson is a former senior executive of the NSW Public Service and urban planner whose extensive experience includes providing high-level and strategic advice on major infrastructure strategy and delivery and urban renewal projects.

Dianne is a qualified town planner with a Masters in Urban and Regional Planning (University of Sydney).

She is currently a Board Member of Infrastructure Australia and of Health Infrastructure NSW,

and member of audit and risk committees for Fire & Rescue NSW (chair), Infrastructure Australia, and Infrastructure NSW.

Dianne is also a member of the Communities Plus Advisory Panel (Land and Housing Corporation NSW) and of Sydney University Building and Estates Committee.

She has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



### **Dr Marcus Lincoln Smith**

Dr Marcus Lincoln Smith is an aquatic ecologist with over 30 years' experience working in freshwater, estuarine and coastal ecosystems in NSW.

He has undertaken major ecological studies on topics as varied as population estimates of grey nurse sharks on the east coast of Australia and on the impacts of mine water discharges from coal mines on freshwater ecology in the Hunter and Illawarra regions. He has also

undertaken studies on the ecological effects of environmental flows and water transfers.

In 2003, Marcus prepared on behalf on the (then) NSW Department of Urban Affairs and Planning a manual on the application of aquatic ecology in environmental impact assessment.

Marcus joined the Planning Assessment Commission in May 2015 and completed his term in May 2018.



## **Professor Zada Lipman**

Professor Zada Lipman is an Emeritus Professor in the School of Law at Macquarie University and has written extensively on environmental law.

Over the past 30 years, Zada has taught a number of environmental subjects especially pollution law, planning law, coastal adaptation law and international environmental law.

She currently teaches in the Master of Laws program at Macquarie University and the University of Sydney. She was formerly the Director of the Centre for Environment Law

and the Director for Conflict and Environmental Dispute Resolution at Macquarie University.

Zada was a member of the executive of the Australasian Law Teachers' Association and served as a Director of the Environmental Defender's Office (NSW).

She has been admitted as a barrister in New South Wales and previously practised as an advocate in South Africa.

Zada has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2015.



## **Professor Helen Lochhead**

Professor Helen Lochhead is Dean, Faculty of Built Environment, UNSW Sydney.

An architect, landscape architect and urban designer, Helen combines teaching, research, practice and advisory roles. Her career has focused on the inception, planning, design and delivery of complex multidisciplinary projects ranging from a city-wide improvements programs to major urban regeneration projects.

Helen has held senior roles in the NSW government, including Deputy Government

Architect, Executive Director roles at Sydney Harbour Foreshore Authority and Sydney Olympic Park Authority.

Notable appointments include the National Board of the Australian Institute of Architects, the AIA Foundation, Central Sydney Planning Committee, the ACT Planning and Land Council, the NSW Heritage Council and competition juries and Design Review Panels across Australia.

She has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



## **Professor Richard Mackay AM**

Professor Richard Mackay AM has worked in cultural heritage management for more than 30 years. He was a founding Partner of GML Heritage Pty Ltd, and is currently Director of Possibilities at Mackay Strategic Pty Ltd and an Adjunct Professor at La Trobe University.

Richard is currently an ICOMOS cultural advisor to the World Heritage Committee and immediate past Chair of the Australian World Heritage Advisory Committee and the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area Advisory Committee. He was responsible for the Heritage theme of the 2016 and 2011 Commonwealth State of the Environment reports.

Richard is a member of the National Executive Committee of Australia ICOMOS, and former member of the Heritage Council of NSW.

He received the Australian Heritage Council 'Sharon Sullivan Award' for his contribution to Australia's national heritage and is a Member in the General Division of the Order of Australia for services to archaeology and cultural heritage.

Richard has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



### **Ilona Millar**

Ilona Millar is an environmental and projects lawyer with over 17 years' experience in natural resource management law, environmental markets, climate law and policy.

Ilona is a visiting Fellow at the ANU College of Law at the Australian National University where she teaches the international climate change law course.

She has previously taught environmental law and lectured on water markets in the environmental markets course at UNSW.

Ilona is currently a Special Counsel at Baker McKenzie and has previously been the Principal Solicitor of the Environmental Defender's Office (NSW).

She has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2015.



## **Russell Miller AM**

Russell Miller AM is a lawyer who has worked extensively in the transport sector. He is a Fellow of the Centre for Strategy and Governance and a consultant with Minter Ellison.

Russell is a former Chair of the Minter Ellison firm and partner of many years standing. He has served on a number of public sector boards, including the International Air Services Commission the National Electricity Code Administrator and the Australian Bureau of Meteorology.

Russell has been an Adjunct Professor at the Australian National University and a Senior Fellow at Melbourne University.

He has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



#### **Steve O'Connor**

Steve O'Connor has expertise in planning and environmental science and has worked in the public sector at the State and local government level and as a consultant in the private sector.

Steve is a Fellow of the Planning Institute of Australia (PIA), a Registered Planner and served as Chair and as a member of the Alliance Leadership Team (ALT) for the Sydney Water Delivery Alliance. He was appointed by the NSW Minister for the Environment to the Natural Resource Advisory Council, is a Director of the PIA and is currently a national Vice President of PIA.

Steve has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since 2015.



## **Tony Pearson**

Tony Pearson is an experienced strategic and financial advisor, with a career of over 20 years across banking, corporate, infrastructure funds management, regulatory, and board roles.

He currently or has recently held nonexecutive positions with Regnan, International Grammar School, Aspire Mining, and Azarga Resources Group.

Tony was previously a Managing Director at HSBC, and prior to this held various senior

executive roles with SouthGobi Resources, the Australian Securities & Investments Commission, Citi and Westpac.

He also serves as an Ambassador for White Ribbon, has been admitted as a Member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors, and holds a B.Comm. (with Merit) from the University of NSW.

Tony has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



### Annabelle Pegrum AM

Annabelle Pegrum AM is a Life Fellow of the Australian Institute of Architects and an Adjunct Professor in architecture at the University of Canberra.

She was the Chief Executive of the National Capital Authority from 1998-2008 and previously held senior executive positions with the ACT Government. She was the 1998 Telstra ACT Business Woman of the Year and received a Centenary Medal in 2001.

She has extensive experience in city management, urban and landscape policy, strategy, planning and design and has been on numerous design juries.

Annabelle was a member of the Commission from 3 May 2012 to 2 May 2018.



#### **Annelise Tuor**

Annelise Tuor has university degrees in both architecture and planning and is a Nationally Accredited Mediator.

Annelise was a Commissioner of the Land and Environment Court of NSW for 14 years and has previously held senior positions at the Council of the City of Sydney, where she managed the assessment of major development proposals and the preparation of planning policies. She has also worked in various branches of the Department of Planning and began her career as an architect and then a planner in private enterprise.

Recently, Annelise has been appointed as the chair/alternate chair/expert member of a number of Local Planning Panels, and as an alternate member of Sydney North District Panel.

Her experience in planning and environmental management is wide ranging, with particular expertise in statutory and strategic planning, urban design, heritage, planning law, as well as management, decision making and dispute resolution.

She has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.



#### **Dr Peter Williams**

Dr Peter Williams holds degrees in geography, environmental planning, public policy, and law; he also has a doctorate in environmental law.

After 14 years' experience in planning policy and law in the private and public sectors, Peter joined the Faculty of the Built Environment at the University of New South Wales in 1993. There he taught a number of environmental and planning law subjects and was Head of the Planning Program at UNSW between 2009 and 2012.

Peter joined the Sydney Law School at the University of Notre Dame Australia at the

beginning of 2017. For over 25 years he has contributed to research in the field and has served on several State and local government committees.

Peter is a member of the Specialist Accreditation Planning and Environment Law Advisory Committee of the Law Society of NSW and a Fellow of Planning Institute of Australia.

He has been a member of the Independent Planning Commission since August 2017.





## **Professor Snow Barlow**

Professor Snow Barlow is an agricultural scientist with a Masters of Rural Science from the University of New England and a PhD in soil-plant-water relations from Oregon State University. He is an Emeritus Professor at the University of Melbourne.

He has had a significant involvement with the natural resources issues of Australian agriculture and chairs the Victorian Endowment for Science, Knowledge and Innovation. Snow is a member of the Australian Rural Leadership Foundation Board and the Research Advisory Committee of the Australian Farm Institute.

He is a fellow of the Australian Academy of Technological Sciences and Engineering and the Australian Institute of Agricultural Science and Technology.

Snow has also served on the Prime Minister's Science, Engineering and Innovation Council.



#### **Professor Alice Clark**

Professor Alice Clark holds a Bachelor of Science and a Master of Science in Economic Geology.

Alice is the Director of the Julius Kruttchnitt
Mineral Research Centre and the WH Bryan
Mining and Geology Research Centre at
the Sustainable Minerals Institute within the
University of Queensland, proprietor of Cdek
Geological and Mining Services, and is a
registered primary producer in NSW.

Professor Clark is also a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Mining and Mattallurgy (AusIMM). She held the role of President of the AusIMM in 2011 and 2012.



### **George Gates**

George Gates has had a 40-year career in hydrogeology and was, until March 2014, Director of Water Management at the NSW Office of Water.

George has extensive knowledge of the State's groundwater systems and has developed a number of groundwater policies for NSW. He has extensive experience in groundwater

connectivity, a detailed understanding of public policy and was the President of the NSW Chapter of the International Association of Hydrogeologists from 1994-2004.

In 2013 he was awarded the Public Service Medal for his contribution to water management in NSW.



### **Catherine Hird**

Catherine Hird has 40 years of experience in soil survey and land capability classification and is engaged by multiple government agencies to provide scientific assessments to create practical designs for schemes that apply waste products to land.

She holds a Master of Applied Science in the specialist area of geographical information

systems, as well as an honours degree in agricultural science with a major in soil science.

Ms Hird has been awarded the highest level of Certified Practising Soil Science by the Soil Science Society of Australia.



## **Dr lan Lavering**

Dr lan Lavering is a geologist with extensive experience in geological mapping and the impact of resource development in major agricultural regions of Western Australia.

He has also provided advice to Commonwealth agencies on on shore and offshore petroleum drilling and environmental management and is experienced in the potential impacts on aquifers from the drilling activities.

His most recent professional positions include: Principal Geoscientist with the Petroleum and Greenhouse Gas Advice Group of Geoscience Australia (a Commonwealth agency); Adjunct Professor in Sustainable Energy Management at the University of NSW; and Director of Energy and Environment Management Pty Ltd.



### **Geoff Sharrock**

Geoff Sharrock has held a number of Chief Executive and Director positions with various coal mines in NSW.

He holds a Bachelor of Science in Geology and a Bachelor of Arts in economics.

Geoff has a strong working knowledge of the regulations for explorations, as well as of developing, expanding and operating coal mines.

He has also served on Singleton Council from 2004 to 2008, providing firsthand experience in stakeholder engagement and community expectations with respect to mining and petroleum developments.



#### **Brett Whelan**

Brett Whelan is an internationally respected agricultural scientist based at the University of Sydney.

An associate Professor, Brett's work and his interests are focused on strengthening the role of sustainable agricultural management within society.

He has a wide knowledge of general and production issues important to farmers, gained from more than 25 years of involvement in agriculture.



## **Professor Garry Willgoose**

Professor Garry Willgoose has focused on hydrogeomorphology for the last 20 years, with particular expertise in long term post mining rehabilitation forecasting / environmental management.

More Recently, his focus has been on soil and spoil properties pre and post mining.

He also provides high quality expertise in the long-term impacts of mining and groundwater impacts of coal seam gas.



# **APPENDIX 2: OUR WORK**

## STATUS OF CASES AS AT 30 JUNE 2018

Symb	ools		
	Approved	•	In Progress
	On Hold	<b>_</b>	Withdrawn
×	Refused	<b>»</b> I	Advice/review completed, project sent back to Department of Planning & Environment

Reference	Case Name	Status	Туре	LGA
D350-15	Crookwell III Windfarm	•		
D440-16	The Sydney Zoo	<b>~</b>	INDUSTRIAL	BLACKTOWN
R040-17	Bylong Coal Project	ж	RESOURCES	MID-WESTERN REGIONAL
D473-17	The Dan Land Residential Subdivision MOD 3	*	URBAN METRO	NEWCASTLE
D474-17	Cultural Events Site Concept Plan MOD 2	<b>~</b>	INDUSTRIAL	BYRON
D474-17	Cultural Events Site Project Approval MOD 4	<b>~</b>	INDUSTRIAL	BYRON
D475-17	Building R4A & Building R4B, Barangaroo South	<b>~</b>	URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D475-17	Building R4A & Building R4B, Barangaroo South	<b>~</b>	URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D476-17	Modification for Cobaki Estate Concept Approval		URBAN REGIONAL	TWEED

Reference	Case Name	Status	Туре	LGA
D477-17	Shoalhaven Starches Ethanol Expansion Project MOD 11 & MOD 12		INDUSTRIAL	SHOALHAVEN
D477-17	Shoalhaven Starches Ethanol Expansion Project MOD 11 & MOD 12		INDUSTRIAL	SHOALHAVEN
D478-17	D478-17 Wetherill Park Transfer Station, 20 Davis Road, Wetherill Park SSD 7267		INDUSTRIAL	FAIRFIELD
D479-17	Modification to Edmondson Park South Concept Plan MOD 4	<b>②</b>	URBAN METRO	LIVERPOOL
D480-17	BlueScope Steel Paint Line Facility Erskine Park MOD 6	<b>⊘</b>	INDUSTRIAL	PENRITH
D481-17	Integra Underground Project MOD 7		RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D481-17	Mount Owen Continuation Project MOD 1	<b>Ø</b>	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D482-17	Wallarah 2 Coal Project	<b>~</b>	RESOURCES	WYONG
D483-17	Modification to Fern Bay Project Approval MOD 9	<b>Ø</b>	URBAN REGIONAL	PORT STEPHENS
D484-17	Modification to Kirrawee Brick Pit Concept Approval MOD 5		URBAN METRO	SUTHERLAND
D485-17	Mixed Use Development at 80-88 Regent Street, Redfern	<b>©</b>	URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D486-17	Kurnell Refinery Conversion Works MOD 2	<b>Ø</b>	INDUSTRIAL	SUTHERLAND

# **APPENDIX 2: OUR WORK**

Reference	Case Name	Status	Туре	LGA
D487-17	Modification to Clare Hotel Block 3A Central Park Project Approval	<b>⊘</b>	URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D488-17	Beryl Solar Farm	<b>~</b>	INFRASTRUCTURE	MID-WESTERN REGIONAL
D489-17	Rocky Hill Coal Project Gloucester	×	RESOURCES	GLOUCESTER
D489-17	Rocky Hill Coal Project Gloucester	×	RESOURCES	GLOUCESTER
A079-17	Request for Rezoning Review for land at 4-6 Bligh Street, Sydney	H	URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D490-17	Invincible Colliery Southern Extension MOD 5	<b>⊘</b>	RESOURCES	LITHGOW
A080-17	Request for Advice Stage 1 State significant development application at Martin Place	<b>H</b>	URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D491-17	Kurnell Refinery Conversion Works MOD 3	<b>⊘</b>	INDUSTRIAL	SUTHERLAND
D492-17	Waste Recycling and Transfer Facility 52 Anderson Road, Smeaton Grange	<b>⊘</b>	INDUSTRIAL	CAMDEN
D493-17	Wambo Coal Project MOD 17	<b>~</b>	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D494-17	Mortdale Resource Recovery Facility, Hearne St Mortdale	<b>⊘</b>	INFRASTRUCTURE	HURSTVILLE
D495-17	Moorebank Intermodal Precinct East Stage 2	<b>~</b>	OTHER	LIVERPOOL
D495-17	Moorebank Intermodal Precinct East Concept Plan Modification 2	<b>⊘</b>	OTHER	LIVERPOOL

Reference	Case Name	Status	Туре	LGA
D496-17	Port Waratah Coal Services Terminal 4 MOD 1	<b>©</b>	INFRASTRUCTURE	NEWCASTLE
D497-17	Hunter Valley Operations South Modification 5	<b>~</b>	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D498-17	Mixed Use Development 85 Harrington Street and 68 -72 Gloucester Street, The Rocks		URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
R042-17	United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project	H	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
R042-17	United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project MOD 3	H	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
R042-17	United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine Project MOD 16	H	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D499-18	Shoalhaven Starches Ethanol Expansion Project MOD 13		INDUSTRIAL	SHOALHAVEN
A081-18	Request to Rezone land at the western end of Ralston Ave, Belrose	•	URBAN METRO	WARRINGAH
A082-18	Request for Review of Gateway Determination for 197 & 207 Church St & 89 Marsden St, Parramatta	<b>&gt;&gt;</b> 1	URBAN METRO	PARRAMATTA
D500-18	Cabbage Tree Road Sand Quarry	<b>~</b>	RESOURCES	PORT STEPHENS
D501-18	Jupiter Wind Farm	<b>(</b>	INFRASTRUCTURE	QUEANBEYAN
D502-18	Bango Wind Farm	<b>~</b>	INFRASTRUCTURE	YASS VALLEY

# **APPENDIX 2: OUR WORK**

Reference	Case Name	Status	Туре	LGA
D503-18	Calderwood Concept Plan Approval MOD2	<b>~</b>	URBAN REGIONAL	SHELLHARBOUR
A083-18	Ministerial call- in Request Viva Clyde Western Area Remediation Project	<b>H</b>	OTHER	PARRAMATTA
D504-18	Woolooware Bay Town Centre Concept Plan MOD 2	<b>⊘</b>	URBAN METRO	SUTHERLAND
D509-18	Woolooware Bay Town Centre Project Approval MOD 6		URBAN METRO	SUTHERLAND
D505-18	Woolooware Bay Town Centre Concept Plan MOD 5	<b>⊘</b>	URBAN METRO	SUTHERLAND
D506-18	Cobaki Concept Plan Approval MOD 9	×	OTHER	TWEED
D507-18	Integra Underground Mine MOD 8	<b>V</b>	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D508-18	Modification Request to Concept Approval & Project Approval, Former Rachel Forster Hospital MP07_0029 MOD 1 & MP 09_0068 MOD 1		URBAN METRO	SYDNEY
D510-18	Eastern Creek Energy Waste Facility	•	INDUSTRIAL	BLACKTOWN
D511/18	Shoalhaven Starches Ethanol Expansion Project MOD 14	<b>~</b>	INFRASTRUCTURE	SHOALHAVEN
R043/18	Rix's Creek Coal Mine Extension Project	•	RESOURCES	SINGLETON
D512/18	Mount Pleasant Coal Mine Extension of Mine Life MOD 3	•	RESOURCES	MUSWELLBROOK

Reference	Case Name	Status	Туре	LGA
A084-18	Crown Cemetery and Crematoria Development, Wallacia	•	URBAN METRO	PENRITH
A085-18	Crown Cemetery Development, Varroville	•	URBAN METRO	CAMPBELLTOWN
D513/18	Eastlakes Shopping Centre Project Approval MOD 1	<b>~</b>	URBAN METRO	BOTANY BAY
D514/18	Sigma Pharmaceutical Warehouse and Distribution Facility MOD 1		INDUSTRIAL	PENRITH
D515/18	Eastern Creek Business Hub - Retail Centre	•	URBAN METRO	BLACKTOWN
D516/18	Eastern Creek Business Hub Stage 1 MOD 3	•	URBAN METRO	BLACKTOWN
D517/18	West Culburra Concept Proposal	•	URBAN REGIONAL	SHOALHAVEN



