

Ms Gwen Verdun

19 July 2018

Independent Planning Commission NSW
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
SYDNEY NSW 2000

To Commission Members

Objection to West Culburra Concept Proposal (SSD3846)

My mother, my daughter, her husband and their two children reside here in Culburra and my son and his family hopes to do likewise. I personally have lived here in the 50's and '60's with my grandparents and moved here permanently in 1985.

We all love and value Culburra Beach and Orient Point. We relish the natural environment of our home, surrounded by the Crookhaven River Estuary, two mighty fine, unspoilt beaches, unique bird and wildlife, magnificent ocean and Lake Wollumboola. The Lake and Estuary are recognised as a significant habitat for migratory birds.

We love our unique, coastal village and environment and feel that the proposed development of 650 houses, 46 small medium density apartments, including a 4 story apartment block south of Culburra Road and industrial development, will be very detrimental to the Lake and the Crookhaven River and Estuary.

Adding to the loss by clearing to build these places, more than 75 hectares of coastal forest, including wetlands, will create enormous environmental problems caused by polluted run offs for the fish nurseries, oyster leases and threatened species habitats.

I have witnessed removal of middens from the lake area and along Prince Edward Avenue in the early 1980's and I am concerned more damage will be done to our Aboriginal cultural heritage.

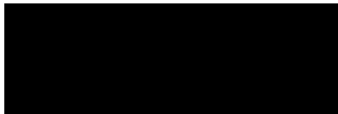
I see no benefit to the local tradespeople as we have seen that other major residential areas in the Shoalhaven seem to be in the hands of 3-5 major home builders who bring their own contract tradesmen.

Here and in the Shoalhaven district we have the highest level of unemployment in the State, particularly in youth and Indigenous people in the State. The local village shopping centre will suffer significantly with proposed tourist accommodation, cafes, restaurants etc. We also have difficulty in providing sufficient medical, dental and aged care services with the lack of health professionals in the area.

Our roads are already underserviced with repairs and the damage to the only road into town created by heavy machinery being bought in to clear land will be horrendous, not to mention create major traffic problems getting to the Nowra business centre. There is also a drastic lack of public transport.

I believe that this issue has been raised over and over and it's time this matter was resolved. The Halloran Planning Proposal process offers a greater potential to resolve future environment protection and development.

Yours sincerely

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(Ms) Gwen Verdun