

Robert Shimmen



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Commission Secretariat  
Independent Planning Commission NSW  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

As a long-term resident of the Culburra Beach area I have witnessed gross injustices against our community perpetrated by different governments and government departments both local and state over the years that I have been associated with the Culburra Beach area since 1965.

Over this time, I have witnessed major changes to lake Wollumboola, like in 1967 the local shire council dredged the northern side of the sand spit chasing the mineral Rutile weakening the mouth of the lake and altering the natural opening of the lake, this is followed by illegal openings of the lake by individuals who wanted better surfing conditions and inept council engineers who don't get the correct information or proper hydrology reports to rectify the mistakes of the past.

The stormwater runoff from the existing villages of Culburra Beach and Orient Point have a detrimental effect on both Lake Wollumboola and the Crookhaven River as there are no stormwater controls to alleviate stormwater or sedimentation flows into these waterways let alone the siltation effect to the mouth of the Crookhaven River that is occurring because of the canal that Alexander Berry had dug to connect the Shoalhaven and Crookhaven River systems for his own personal gain.

Then we have a State Premier and Government Ministers who work against the community as the Premier wants no changes to the Shoalhaven region in general thus creating a slow economic area as huge tracks of land are locked away by national parks that do not invest in the infrastructure of the area. Better than 70% of the Shoalhaven area is controlled by this department with no benefit to the community apart from increasing the cost to the community to maintain all the roads and infrastructure to pass through all the areas locked away from being used.

The land in question that is to have a world class golf course and staged housing subdivision that is on privately owned land that is zoned residential, commercial and industrial which would be of a huge benefit to our community so one would have to ask why the independent commission against corruption are not investigating the department of planning and environment and the so called Independent Planning Commission who have been found to have been having secret meetings with a small radical group that are against any progress or benefit to our community as this same group and members have been

against the community since 1996 through different beneficial subdivisions for our community.

All the land in question has been cleared and farmed for many years so any growth in this area is mainly regrowth, all this information is available to be investigated in the N.S.W state library so one has to question what these public servants are being paid for if normal people can investigate the back ground of the area in question.

The land owner in this case has spent millions on various studies that have been demanded by a department that appears to be against any benefit for our community. Our children need the opportunity to live and work in the area that they were raised if they wish.

Personally, I am for both the housing subdivision and the golf course, as both these be financially beneficial for our village, as I have stated in previous submissions over the years.

Yours Faithfully,

*Robert Shimmen*