

From: [REDACTED]
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Long Bow Point Golf Course (SSD 8406)
Date: Monday, 23 July 2018 6:10:35 PM

Independent Planning Commission NSW

**To Commission members,
Objection to Long Bow Point Golf Course (SSD 8406)**

I have been writing to express my objection to the development application for an 18 hole golf course at Long Bow Point since 2011. As a golfer myself, I would not be averse to such a proposal in a more appropriate location – one that is not situated within the catchment area of Lake Wollumboola. Although with an apparent declining patronage at the other nearby courses, to me there does not seem a great need for another local venue – especially as the younger generations mostly prefer alternate activities to playing golf.

As a resident, I regard Lake Wollumboola and its environs as a very special asset – as do my visiting friends from Sydney and overseas. Fortunately it is still one of the relatively few coastal lakes in NSW that is classified as being in a near natural condition. It supports a rich variety of birdlife and other fauna – as does the adjacent coastal bush and forest, which acts as a buffer zone. I have been maintaining a monthly record of bird species sightings in the area since 1987 and am a keen photographer. The opportunity to commune with nature in a peaceful setting so close to an established settlement is sadly quite rare and precious and every effort should be made to preserve it. It certainly permits a restoration of one's spirit and a recharging of one's batteries.

The Lake, and some of its environs are included in the Jervis Bay National Park – and it is listed under Australian legislation and international migratory bird agreements as an internationally significant habitat for migratory birds – including many Threatened Species. The Lake is recognized also by Birdlife International and the International Union for Conservation of Nature as a globally important Key Biodiversity Area. It is subject to considerable change in water depth and configuration of the sand and mud flats – and consequently in its appeal to various bird species. So it is unsurprising that at times the presence of rarities attracts bird observers and photographers from all over the country.

The proposed siting of a golf course in the Lake Wollumboola catchment is contrary to consistent, long-term expert advice – the latest being the assessment of the Department of Planning and Environment from earlier in this month. I agree with the NSW Government policy that the Lake catchment especially Long Bow Point, is unsuitable for urban development and should be zoned for “Environment Protection.”

The natural surface and ground water runoff from Long Bow Point and surrounds, is critical in maintaining the Lake's water quality, its wetlands and aquatic environment and abundant wildlife. Indeed, this is the crux of the matter – for the application fails to

demonstrate that adverse impacts on the Lake's sensitive ecology wouldn't occur as a result of the pollution from the fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides used to maintain the course. In the long term, even relatively minor runoff could have a significant cumulative impact on water quality – and the Lake's ability to provide a sustainable food supply for a large number of birds of many different species.

I strongly urge the Commission to decide in favour of the precautionary principle to protect Lake Wollumboola and its immediate environs – to permit it to continue in its relatively unpolluted and undisturbed state in perpetuity – and so that the wider community does not only fully become aware of the enormity of the loss or degradation of this special habitat after the event has occurred and the situation cannot be undone.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Kaar

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