

[REDACTED] IPART objection submission 16 May 2017

Copy submission to State member: Geoff Provest <http://geoffprovest.com.au/>

Copy in Federal Member : Justine Elliot

[http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators and Members/Parliamentarian?MPID=DZW](http://www.aph.gov.au/Senators_and_Members/Parliamentarian?MPID=DZW)

IPART Consultant: Zoe Moffat

Copy to NSW Environment and Protection Agency: info@environment.nsw.gov.au

Copy to all Tweed Shire Council Members:

Councillor Pryce Allsop mobile: [REDACTED]

Councillor Reece Byrnes mobile: [REDACTED]

Councillor Chris Cherry (Deputy Mayor) mobile: [REDACTED]

Councillor Ron Cooper mobile: [REDACTED]

Councillor Katie Milne (Mayor) telephone: [REDACTED]

Councillor James Owen mobile: [REDACTED]

Councillor Warren Polglase mobile: [REDACTED]

Enquire re next TSC full councillor meeting:

[REDACTED], Piggabeen resident (hobby farmer)

Opposition submission to IPART

For the Northern Water Solutions' application for Network Operator's & Retail Supplier's Licence. THIS PROPOSED SCHEME SHOULD NOT be located in Piggabeen (on Piggabeen Rd, in the local government area of Tweed Shire Council, Cobaki Development).

To IPART

CC: as above

Geoff Provest – NSW State Member of Parliament

Justine Elliot Federal Member of Parliament

Tweed Shire Councillors

Re: Cobaki Lakes Dev't Sewage plant Northern Water Solutions (LEDA) application

Our family recently ([REDACTED]) purchased (after years of saving up) our dream hobby farm in Piggabeen. Our property is [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Had we known the possibility of treated effluent and odours could impact our creek and property we would never have considered purchasing in the pristine Piggabeen valley.

We have approx. [REDACTED] of Piggabeen creek frontage on our [REDACTED] property. This tidal creek has an abundance of fish and mud crabs which we regularly catch and eat. We also enjoy boating and kayaking up and down the creek. (photo's of mud crabs and boating attached)

We have planted fruit orchards and olive trees, and currently raise organic beef, and poultry with [REDACTED] along the banks of Piggabeen creek – while [REDACTED]

Real estate values:

We believe the stigma attached to a sewage treatment plant on the golf driving range will impact on our real estate value and those of all Piggabeen valley residents (especially those of us adjacent to the plant). The comments made recently by the residents on the Sunshine coast who have a treatment plant in their vicinity would be totally unacceptable in our valley.

<https://m.sunshinecoastdaily.com.au/news/sewage-stink-upsets-residents/2635608/>

It is cruel to penalise those of us who have recently purchased properties (let alone the older generation of farmers who have been in the valley for decades) who could never have foreseen such an installation on this site. Not to mention the financial impact on the local wedding function centre which forms the “gateway” to our valley community (which will now be blighted by having this installation where the wedding photo's are taken.) Imagine coming to our Piggabeen Sunday markets (in the historic hall and school) on the banks of the creek to see an imposing sight – a WASTE WATER TREATMENT FACILITY !

Why no Consultation ?

Another concern has been why Northern Water Solutions and Leda have made no attempt outside the bare legal minimum to inform the community of these plans. There is a belief that LEDA are trying to hide something. No explanation has been provided as to why the plant could not be located somewhere less intrusive on the 605 Ha owned by LEDA. It would appear that this site has been chosen to distance the plant from Leda's development blocks, allowing the developer to maintain his yield from his land, and thereby impacting it on the local residents of Piggabeen valley, who are of little commercial value to the company.

Flooding:

The Piggabeen creek and Piggabeen valley and golf driving range (development site) are subject to occasional severe flooding with the very real potential to cause damage to infrastructure and the possibility of effluent spillage. It is notable that Section 3.4.3 does not even mention the word “flood”. No officers of NWS, or Planit consulting have been present in a major flood event. Various valley residents have witnessed more than 2 feet of flood waters coming across the driving range in the past.

Pls see attached photo's of March 2017 Piggabeen flooding.

Local Wildlife:

We have an abundance of wildlife which we thoroughly enjoy - echidnas, wallaby's and all manner of birdlife – Lorakeets, Parakeets, Rosella's, Kookaburra's, Cookatoo's, Galahs, Stalks, Ibis, Egrets, and

heaps of other sea birds. Also ducks, turtles, crabs, - the list goes on. Also not forgetting our beautiful green tree frogs. [see pictures.](#)

Local Residents;

With nearly 6,000 new homes designated for this development site, and only 2 access roads in and out (one yet to be built) there is no doubt the already totally (peak hour) congested Kennedy drive will become a 24 hour nightmarish grid locked street – how on earth will we survive when Kennedy drive (and Piggabeen Rd) become flooded (as they often do) and impassable and LEDA NWS is trying to bring in trucks to take out the sewage due to power outage which we often have – as they state in one of their back up plans (per their application)??

I am of the opinion the entire NWS Cobaki Lakes Water Treatment Plant Development application should be rejected on the grounds that the site and surrounding valley with its unique eco-system is totally unsuitable for a local sewage treatment plant.

Cobaki Lakes Development with its nearly 6,000 building blocks SHOULD be connected for its water and sewage supply to the already existing local Tweed Shire Council sewage infrastructure at Banora Point. Banora Point has had millions of dollars (our rate payers dollars) spent on upgrades and according to the Tweed Council, has the capability to accommodate the Cobaki Lakes development immediately and also as it expands to 6000 new homes over the next 17 years.

Can common sense PLEASE prevail by putting a halt to this application so as to avoid any future impact on the pristine Piggabeen Valley and its local residents and native wildlife.

Kind Regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]







