

## Catherine Hill Bay - Network Operator Variation

I am concerned as a frequent visitor to this beach of waste water being dumped in a local creek which flows to a beach where a surf club and the general public visit, the area is relatively undisturbed where natural flora and fauna are present. The area is amasssed in summer time with families enjoying the unspoilt and quiet nature of the area.

This area should be protected from waste water discharge. What will be the effects of all this development? The reason people love Catherine Hill Bay and Moonie Beach is it is natural on top, the developer's say it's just an old coal mine, which was UNDERGROUND but above it is (was) relative untouched with undisturbed areas of beauty. Seams the operators need a less expensive way to dispose of sewage and want to dump it our local waterways.

While there may be good aspects of this system on the whole, why do they need to discharge the waste into a creek, Treated waste or not it is still waste water with traces of chemicals, pesticides, faecal matter.

This so called lagoon is a wetland area which should be protected, this wetland extends to a public beach which spills into the ocean, I surf here, I am concerned of the effects this may have in the future with the build-up of toxins.

Children play in the creek as it is flows onto the beach and has shallow smooth water ponds just under the road bridge continuing just shy of high water mark at times.

There must be another alternative rather than dumping it on a beach.

I know the saying it's just piss in the ocean but my understanding is the low cost waste water treatment pipeline ends before it reaches the ocean and relies on the natural wetlands to do the final filtration as it heads to the beach. What happens at peak times, high rainfall and electrical power issues. Can the STP operators guarantee that untreated waste will not be released into local waterways?

Who is going to check and monitor the creek?

Will this area be fenced off, after it is part of the STP. Will animals still use this wetland to water and feed or will it become hazardous to drink, breed, or use. Coal and minerals are 1 thing introducing pesticides, shampoos detergents, and other chemicals like chlorine could devastate any local frog species which could cause issues to other species in the chain.

I submit against the approval of using our local water ways as a dumping ground of Human Waste, Treated or NOT.

Kindest Regards

Dean Porteous

