

I object to the proposal.

I have live in Lake Macquarie for sixty years. I watched and supported the extension of the sewerage treatment disposal for the area progress from a pipe dumping effluent off Burwood beach to being pumped out to sea via an underground tunnel. This was because of effluent affecting beaches from Merewearthe to Redhead.

Now due to expense it is proposed to revert to a treated first fleet policy of putting diluted effluent into a creek, lagoon then a popular public beach. The lagoon is used as a safe swim spot for toddlers, the most vulnerable of trhe community.

There is an approved process for disposal. A cost analayses has found a cheaper way that relies on measurement, management and maintenance of equipment (the 3 Ms). This is not a failsafe system. The proposed dry water distributions will be the main water source for the creek and lagoon, wet weather discharges will rely on the three M's. The area should be inspected as the creek and lagoon has changed considerable since the development has altered the feed of water.

This area has been identified under the Lake Macquarie Belmont Plan as the fastest growing area in the district. Will the future subdivisions also required beach side sewage disposal? If it is too expensive to supply water and sewage the developments may not be viable.

The licensee had proposed a state of the art plan to get approval, now the subdivision is inhabited it is proposing a down grade to a system that if there are problems may present a health risk.