

## **Objection: DA 714/2014 - Development Application**

617 Freemans Drive COORANBONG NSW 2265

Description: Utility Installation - Sewage Treatment Plant and Water Recycling Facility

Applicant: JOHNSON PROPERTY GROUP PTY LIMITED

To whom it might concern,

We are writing to you to lodge our strong objections to the development application for a Sewage Treatment Plant and Water Recycling Facility at 617 Freemans Drive COORANBONG NSW 2265.

We live at [REDACTED] Cooranbong in a community known as Avondale Springs directly opposite this proposed development.

Our objections are as follows:

**Noise Levels 24 hours.** We moved to our home here at Avondale Springs because of the tranquillity and beautiful environment that we found at our back doorstep. We find it intolerable that this peace will be shattered by the operation noise of the plant and the noise of large trucks entering and leaving the site anytime of the night and day.

**Levels of Odours.** The proposal admits that there will be levels of odours emitted by the sewage plant. This is totally unacceptable. This will not only force us to move but also drastically affect the value of our home. A westerly wind would affect hundreds of households. An easterly would have the same affect.

**Flooding.** Next door to us in the land between the community centre, preschool and us is a natural watercourse during times of rain. The water flows from the land of 617 Freemans Drive, the site of the proposed development into the lake/dams that make up Avondale Springs. We have already experienced a substantial death toll in our aquatic and wild bird life from the runoff from the Watagan Estate under construction during the last several heavy rain periods. This year we have only seen one family of ducklings. Last year there were several. That this pristine aquatic environment could be contaminated by the sewage works is an abomination.

We have just had it confirmed today by Hunter Water that the sewerage drain at the bottom corner of our block has been spewing raw effluent into the dams behind them. During the last heavy rain period the circular concrete lid was spinning, creating a whirlpool due to the force of the sewerage coming out. We were told that the electrical power outage meant the pumps were not working causing this to happen however we have witnessed the effluent spewing from there during every heavy rain period (3 times) so far since we moved in October 2014. We are extremely concerned about the very great possibility of contamination from the proposed sewerage works during heavy rain periods.

**Native bird's habitat.** Avondale Springs is home and breeding ground to a large variety of native birds including ibis, water hens, swans, pelicans, a diverse variety of

wild ducks and spoonbills. They nest here and raise their young. This will have an impact on this fragile environment.

**Impact on the centre of the Community.** The proposed sewage development will be right in the middle of the Cooranbong community. Within 100 metres are the Cooranbong Community hall, Services centre, Charity Centre and the Preschool. Within 250 metres are the local shops and business centre, a retirement village and the large Seven Day Adventist Church. Not to mention the hundreds of family homes that surrounds the proposed site. To place a sewage treatment in the centre of the community is totally unacceptable as it will be a visual eyesore, affect the house prices and have a noise impact with its noisy large trucks and running noise and the stench of sewerage.

**The impact on the established residents.** The proposed site is in the middle of an established community of houses, home to many families. This proposed sewage works will have a direct impact on their quality of life and the value of their property. It seems unrealistic to place such a development here when we are in the middle of a rural area where alternate sites which will not have such a huge impact on the community are readily available. This sewerage treatment plant is not for the local community but for the Watagan Estate which has already fought the location of the sewerage treatment plant at their doorstep. Now their sewerage treatment plant is proposed to be on our doorstep. This is grossly unfair.

We understand that at the meeting the Johnsons held they allegedly made a number of statements regarding noise and odour which after a reading of the DA for the sewerage treatment plant appear to be untrue. We believe the local community have been lulled into a false belief that they will be unaffected by the sewerage treatment plant due to these allegedly false statements and therefore have not been vocal in their protests. We hope you take this into consideration.

Yours faithfully,

Anna and Michael Howard

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted address line]

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