

[REDACTED]
20 October, 2020

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
Green and Resilient Places Division
Locked Bag 5022,
PARRAMATTA NSW 2124

Dear Sir/Madam,

RE: Public Exhibition Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. Property [REDACTED]

I have serious concerns about aspects of the proposed biodiversity conservation zoning for my property as detailed in the Draft Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan. My concerns are based on the following points:

- Department of Planning, Industry and Environment's (DPIE) Biodiversity section have confirmed that the assessment process used to establish the biodiversity conservation zone was desk top review and aerial photo interpretation and was peer reviewed via an independent process. No or minimal field assessment methodology was used in the Orchard Hills area. Under the Biodiversity Conservation Act the Minister must approve the Biodiversity Assessment Methodology. The approved methodology publication is in the Governments Measuring and Ecological Integrity in NSW document and on page 10 of the document says that one of the process measures should be field assessments as it provides concrete evidence. There have been no field assessments on my property to verify the value of the biodiversity to determine the outstanding value of the proposed conservation zone on my property. I gave DPIE and/or their representative permission to undertake field assessment and it was not undertaken. Could you please provide me the data that justifies the ranking of outstanding biodiversity value on my property in accordance with the Biodiversity Conservation Act.
- I believe that in order to provide an accurate base plan that can be defended for the proposed biodiversity conservation zone on my property and all other properties in Orchard Hills, an on-site assessment should be carried out to determine the value and integrity of any biodiversity conservation present.
- The credibility of the proposed biodiversity conservation zones is questionable if there has been no or minimal on site assessments of all affected properties. I believe this is required now before any finalisation of the conservation areas is sought. Under the approved Biodiversity Assessment Methodology document, the onsite field assessment methodology is required as well as other assessment methods.
- Penrith City Council have identified all properties that are flood prone throughout their Local Government Area for the 1 in 100 year plus 0.5 metre freeboard (overland flow flood) being the flood planning level. This was a State Government requirement for all Councils to undertake and notify affected landowners. All affected properties have a notation on their S 149 Certificates for any prospective purchaser to note. My concern is that your mapping does not reflect and/or match this throughout the area and needs to be amended to be in

line with Councils flood prone areas. Could you please amend your proposed conservation zone mapping to include the flood prone properties as well as riparian zones around creeks as per Penrith Councils information.

I believe that my property has no real fauna or flora of outstanding value to be saved and ask that DPIE review the proposed conservation zone on my land. As previously stated in my letter of 15 September, 2020 there is about 4200 square metres of this proposed conservation area of my land that has been disturbed by absorption trenches and left over building materials.

Should you wish to discuss this further please call me on 

Yours faithfully,

