

[REDACTED]  
Orchard Hills, NSW 2748

PH: [REDACTED]

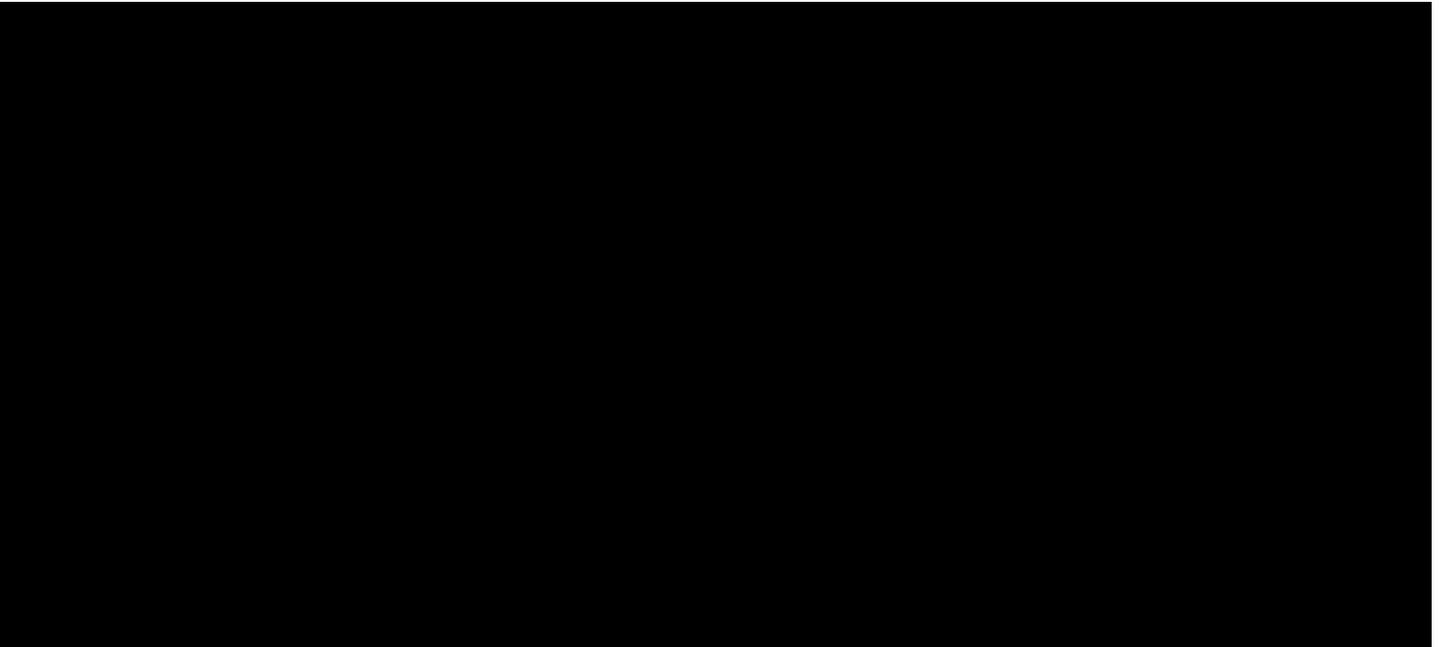
Email: [REDACTED]

Department of Planning, Industry and Environment,  
Locked Bag 5022,  
Parramatta NSW 2124.

Dear Green and Resilient Places Division,

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my concerns regarding the Draft Cumberland Plains Conservation Plan and the effects of the 'proposed' E2 zoning may have on my property at [REDACTED] Orchard Hills.

According to your draft plan, you have 'identified' the back of my property (as you can see in the screen shot below, taken from your spatial viewer of the plan) as proposed E2 zoning.



The draft plan indicates that I have 'native vegetation', and the potential of endangered ecological communities growing on my land.

How was this determined?

I have not had anyone come on to my property to investigate as to whether I have 'native vegetation' or ecological communities growing on it.

I have grass and weeds growing, but grass and weeds grow everywhere and are therefore technically native to all places. If you mean 'native' trees, shrubs, or bushes then you are incorrect. What 'you' are claiming as 'native' is incorrect. You have not been on my property to investigate your claims. This is a false representation of the area.

I have a large area of grass/weeds growing under my NON 'native' 40-year-old pine tree plantation which are full of termites. The pine trees are so old, and termite riddled that they are falling at a rate of 1 every few weeks which in turn makes it difficult and dangerous for me to go into that area and mow the lawn. I do however regularly mow

(around the pine trees and boundary of my property) and spray a double dose of Round Up weed/grass killer through and around that area to control the overgrowth of weeds.

At the recent Community meeting, held by Tanya Davis MP, member for Mulgoa, at St Marys Band Club on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> October 2020, regarding the draft plan, I learnt that drones were being used above the Orchard Hills area to determine whether there was native vegetation and/or endangered fauna and flora.

I would like to have the list of following concerns addressed before the 'draft' plan can be approved:

Why was I not advised that there were drones circling my area and invading my privacy?

How can drones or aerial photos identify endangered fauna and flora or native vegetation when in fact you need to have an ecological expert comb the land for identification?

How can a drone or aerial photos penetrate through tree canopies to identify what lies on the ground?

How can you 'claim' that my land has been assessed and identified as having potential threatened ecological communities on it when an expert has not entered my property to do such an investigation?

Where is the report stating which fauna and flora has been identified on my property?

Where is the proof?

I have lived at 47-51 Darvill Road for over 25 years. I have cultivated and milled the land. I have mowed, sprayed weed killer and pesticides on the property on a regular basis. I have done this to control and maintain the overgrowth of weeds, grass and pests. There have been frequent foxes and feral cats that have killed off any livestock that I have tried to rear on the land.

I would appreciate answers and evidence to my above stated questions as soon as possible.

An ecological study and survey need to be conducted, alongside the landowners, and a report prepared and submitted by an expert before making these claims.

I urge you to re-evaluate and postpone the final decision of the Cumberland Plain Conservation Plan until further investigations and reports are submitted and available to the landowners of Orchard Hills.

I thank you for looking at my submission and I await your response to my concerns.

Kind Regards

