

Alison J Mead

Evans Head
NSW 2473

Re:DA 2015/0096
Iron Gates Development
Goldcoral Pty Ltd

To whom it may concern,

I am writing this submission to voice my objection to the aforementioned DA that is being proposed along the Evans Head River.

I am a resident of Evans Head and am concerned that this DA is being considered as an addition to the Evans Head landscape and will impact it in a very negative way.

There will be negative impact issues concerning our Indigenous Nations and especially the Bunjalung people.

The health of the Evans River, risks to protected species of Flora and Fauna and the future ecology of this area, natural water conservation, fishing industry decline, erosion of the natural landscape, increased air pollution with increased numbers of cars planes etc, increased crime rates and negative impact social issues such as isolation and stretched resources for the planned rise in population).

I believe that DA 2015/0096 will put in motion the very quick destruction of the quintessential qualities that make Evans Head such a special and valuable resource that could be used for now and into the future. It is the amount, timing and timeframes of the many developments planned for this area and the questionable impacts not being sufficiently researched and reported.

Cultural Heritage and sacred sites considerations.

(1) measures to protect the cultural places, values, customs, beliefs and traditional knowledge of Aboriginals.

- The Cultural Heritage Assessment does not satisfy the above requirement.
- The Revised Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Assessment prepared by Everick Heritage dated July 2019 still has some issues not resolved, for example not all appropriate parties were interviewed (Indigenous women) and there was little information supplied as to what the direct connection to country really means to Indigenous people as a whole which is in effect lacking in the complete meaning of 'cultural landscape'. This is why I feel the Cultural and Heritage information provided by Mr Everick is inaccurate at this time. As there is still more time

needed for all Indigenous parties to be consulted there would need to be a halt put on the Iron Gates Development process. I would be asking for a more complete and comprehensive review of Annexure 9.

The River

The Evans River is a complex habitat for some of our most endangered marine species. I am particularly concerned about the proposed Iron Gates Development. There will be significant impact with any development planned to be directly beside a waterway or throughout important ecological wetlands and the negative impacts they will have not only on water quality but on other water related activities as well.

By allowing a development such as DA2015/0096 to be taking a position along the river and into the natural it is my view that this DA as a real threat to swimming (algae blooms), the small fishing industry (there will be loss of habitat for juvenile animals and nowhere suitable for mature animals to breed anymore.)

h) measures to conserve fish (within the meaning of Part 7A of the Fisheries Management Act 1994) and marine vegetation (within the meaning of that Part), and their habitats

What will the new residents and tourist's fish for???? Plastic bottles and other refuse, other chemical contamination from all the building, increased marine activity and consumed products that get into the waterways from the urban area? Water qualities dissipate when there is too much development nearby. These are all very well known, documented facts.

(m) likely impacts of development on the water quality of coastal water bodies.

In 2019/19 Beach Watch study was prepared by the department of planning, Industry and Environment. Scored Evans head Beach and river as category 'poor' indicating water quality is susceptible to faecal pollution, particularly after rainfall.

Last February while swimming in the river on the opposite side from the caravan park, there was the distinct smell of sewerage in and around the water for days. The water quality of the river and surrounds is not pristine as Evans Head is at the moment.

The local council already has difficulty managing the waterways sufficiently without all the extra populations planned in and around Evans Head.

I am very concerned about the implications of having a development's sewerage works so close to the river when there are issues of the site being of a wetland landscape and all coastal areas having rising sea levels into the future. Why approve a development that will have ongoing maintenance issues into the future that the community will have to pay for?

Fire Risk

The position of the development being so close to national parks and where many firestorm winds would find their direction, would be a certain danger for the rest of town because of access roads troublesome in an emergency. The fire risk in these present times would surely find a development such as Iron Gates to be high (category 1- vegetation and heath being an issue.) If conditions become extreme, which the RFS are still warning as a possibility with these dry conditions prevailing well into early next year, there may be issues in lack of fire support and with insufficient room for all of the people housed in Iron gates to be safe.

In conclusion my points of objection are;

- of impaired management of consultations with indigenous parties concerning the site over a period of time that needs to be addressed,
- for the lack of appropriate environmental protection of the health of the river, beaches and national parks that are the main source of attraction and income for this region.
- of the fire risk factors.

Locate the developments in, well away from our fragile coasts for greater environmental protection, and provide safer developments that are not as exposed to the imminent fire threat that is not going to leave these anytime soon. We need to keep Evans head as "The Jewel in the crown" and try not to let it be turned into a lump of coal.

Yours sincerely
Ally Mead

