Dear Sir/Madame,

Submission Greater Macarthur Land Release

I am totally against any more land releases in this area.

Despite the fact that building here in Macarthur is supporting the whole state government budget, we are not a new “Sheep’s back” to ride on. In fact our back is breaking now.

We are already drowning in a badly supported flood of development.

This is exacerbated by the frantic dash to catch up to massive TRAFFIC DIFFICULTIES.

E.g. Narellan Road/M5
It is not uncommon to have a SIX KILOMETRE QUEUE on the M5 just to TURN onto NARELLAN ROAD.

Lane after lane is extended, with all the roadwork slowdowns, and it instantly fills with cars from the latest suburbs added.

Before the latest lanes are open, we have full suburbs Macarthur Heights, the Blair Athol/ Maryfields development, the extensions at Spring Farm, Oran Park, Gregory Hills, etc. all queuing to DRIVE ON.

So, few people catch the bus - an hour on the bus to catch the train that takes another hour to Sydney.

There’s a great physical and emotional toll already. Damned lies and statistics cover the fact that a 4 hour daily commute is what happens to almost all workers here. It is filling people with anger, dread and fatigue. How can you make it worse?

Where is the infrastructure planned ahead?

The same applies in this Menangle/Gilead/Wilton proposal. There’s all this “UTOPIA speak”- ("Utopia" is a satirical program on TV)
UTOPIA speak 1. “Investigate the possible electrification”.

REALITY - This is Spin on the fact that the railway line at Menangle to Picton is NOT even ELECTRIC NOW. You have to change at Campbelltown.

UTOPIA speak 2. “Look into the building of the Maldon Dombarton rail line.” Build a station at Wilton.

REALITY - it needs 4 kilometers of tunnel, the longest in the state, to make this nonexistent line exist.

REALITY - “Wilton Station” is a fantasy built on sandcastles in the air.

Every house needs at least 2 cars. All those houses in Menangle, Gilead and Wilton will need thousands. All those cars feed into M5. This “Greater” Macarthur proposal is “Torture Macarthur”.

Infrastructure HOSPITALS.

Even this year, $200 MILLION promised for the ONLY major hospital in the Macarthur region was turned into another Utopia strategy- an investigation into the need for it.

HAH! REALITY - Antenatal clinics are being carried out in shopping centre rooms and in the rooms of the Benevolent Society.

The local newspaper reports - New borns are discharged without basic tests because staff are so busy.

My own experience this week in Campbelltown hospital confirms this. After many delays for scheduled procedure because no beds available, My family member’s canula was left inserted in the arm for 12 HOURS past time for removal. Why? Because the doctor was swamped with “more critical tasks”.

We do not even have the infrastructure we need now

And finally, what about the air we breathe? We can see the air pollution now. We know how Macarthur receives the air polluted by all Sydney after the air has ‘cooked’ in
the sun. More and more development means more and more pollution. **Do we stop when it looks like Beijing?**

**We need to stop development in this area NOW?**

Julie Russell