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**Subject:**

FW: Submission on the draft Central Coast Regional Plan

General Manager Hunter & Central Coast  
Department of Planning and Environment  
PO Box 1226  
Newcastle NSW 2300

**Submission on draft Central Coast Regional Plan**

Dear Sir / Madam

I have lived at Terrigal for 19 years, before that I lived for 15 years at the foot of the Liverpool Ranges, and prior to that for 12 years in Central Africa. I should like to make a few comments regarding the draft Central Coast Regional Plan.

Sixty years ago when I was at High School in the UK I was taught that the next World War would be about water.

Most importantly the plan needs to ensure the protection of the region's surface and groundwater ecosystems to guarantee an ecologically sustainable future for our grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and future generations. To this end all coal seam gas and long wall coal mining activities should be banned in the Central Coast drinking water catchments. The Plan should also require the implementation of an Operating License for the Water Authority(s) for the Central Coast to ensure environmental protection, transparency, accountability and a minimum standard of service for consumers. The requirement that any development should have neutral or beneficial effect on the region's water quality must be established in law.

In 1984 Gosford Council created the Coastal Open Space System (COSS), a system unique to our region, and to which Council continues to add by the purchase of identified high nature conservation value land as it becomes available. The Plan needs to include specific actions to complete and protect the COSS. Furthermore, the Plan should implement a new E5 zone for the COSS as previously agreed by the current NSW Government. The E5 zone should be gazetted at the same time as the Regional Plan is finalised.

Finally, the principles of ecologically sustainable development (ESD) should be a core part of the vision and goals for the Plan. The vision and goals should be amended to include ESD.

The draft Plan does not provide adequate protection for those areas of high environmental value. The Plan must clearly specify how these areas will be protected and enhanced.

I trust that this submission will be received and given due consideration,

Yours sincerely,

Terrigal Area Residents Association

