

CEN and Nature Conservation Council
Consultation Workshop on Draft Central Coast Regional Plan

2 Questions:

Along with consideration of the Central Coast Draft Plan I have also been involved with the Wollombi Communities' response to the Hunter Draft Plan. I have two questions:

1. Both plans appear to take a thoroughly upbeat, positive approach to all future development and growth, as if all development and growth will be a panacea for the community for the future.
My question: "Is this actually realistic, and why aren't any downsides from growth and development included in the planning document? Wouldn't it be more accurate to say that increasing the population of the Central Coast by 70,000 in the next 20 years will have some negative impacts on the community?"
2. Both plans use a lot of positive statements (spin) to reinforce their positive image. "Sustainable" is used in the most extraordinary contexts like "sustainable mining", "sustainable growth", "ecologically sustainable development" and "sustainable economic growth".
My question is; " What is the Planning Department definition of sustainable, and how can the Planning Department justify the use of sustainable in relation to mining, growth and development? Or is this just another use of spin.

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