

I submit my submission on the Draft Hunter Regional Plan and the Draft Plan Growing the Hunter City.

I am very concerned by the apparent lack of planning for the future, and ignorance of the real world implications of the fossil fuel energy crisis of today and tomorrow.

SUBMISSION on the Draft Hunter Regional Plan and the Draft Plan for Growing the Hunter City.

Please take the following comments as referring to both the above plans.

I strongly object to the inference that these are Plans for the future when they fail to seriously consider the current and future threats as I have indicated below.

1. The impact of Climate Change in terms of both global and local climate:-

How will a rising Sea Level impact on current infrastructure. What reasonable planning scenarios are being calculated? At what cost? **How will the likely costs be distributed?**

What consideration has been given to planning for increased frequency and ferocity of storms and **storm surges along the coasts and waterways?**

What impacts are likely from **changes to rainfall?** How is this planning taking place?

What planning measures are planned for the rehabilitation and use of former and existing fossil fuel mining sites?

What planning is forecast for the protection of future food and water security? What is planned for soil nutrient enhancement in this important food bowl of the Hunter region apart from wines and horse racing studs which have replaced important food supply areas?

I strongly object to the irresponsibility of the above plans in advocating the increase in the fossil fuel industry, when clearly the global and local impacts are disastrous and at the root cause of climate impacts.

Where is the advocacy for a switch to clean energy technology and industry? How will this essential change be handled? What planning is there to accommodate this necessary change in the Hunter Region? When? How will it be phased in?

Where is the planning for Solar and Solar/thermal industry as well as other clean power source?

What are the planning/economic/industrial impacts of ALL of the above? Over what time period?

- 2. What are the planning implications and international law requirements for the protection of RAMSAR bird habitats?** What is the future of Ash Island?
- 3. Where is there Planning for a sustainable forestry industry?**
4. I could not find a mention about quality of life planning in terms of small regional centres?
5. What are the likely impacts on Regional National Parks? What about future costs for pest impacts?

What are the likely costs and impacts of increased frequency and ferocity of bushfires?

I would expect that an honest Draft Hunter Regional Plan and plan for growing Hunter City would seriously consider and have recommendations for ALL of these issues and many others.

I object in the strongest possible terms that so much tax payer funding has apparently been wasted on **this NO Real Planning document which advocates BUSINESS as usual with protection and promotion of the dangerous fossil fuel industry, and ignores the most urgent and real threats and opportunities for the future. What is the TIME PLAN for all of this and the likely impacts on the rest on NSW and AUSTRALIA let alone the rest of the world?**

I urge that these plans be re considered and honestly deal with the above issues.

21st march 2016