

OFFICE OF THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING			Received 13 JAN 2017
DATE RECEIVED:	MO TRIM #:	IM17/728	C.C.U.

A. MINISTER'S OFFICE	
STAFF MEMBER:	



PMU051949

B. AGENCY FOR ACTION	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Department of Planning and Environment(DP&E)
<input type="checkbox"/>	UrbanGrowth (UGNSW)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central Coast Regional Development Corporation (CCRDC)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Hunter Development Corporation (HDC)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Greater Sydney Commission (GSC)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH)
<input type="checkbox"/>	REFER TO OTHER MINISTER:

C. ACTION REQUIRED	
<input type="checkbox"/> Minister to Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Briefing Note
<input type="checkbox"/> COS to Reply	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> For Information Only
<input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Minister to reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Other Agency to Respond
<input type="checkbox"/> Agency response <div style="margin-left: 20px;"> <input type="checkbox"/> SEC <input type="checkbox"/> Deputy Secretary <input type="checkbox"/> ED </div>	

D. DEADLINE	
<input type="checkbox"/> Immediate (Priority – ASAP)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Urgent (7 calendar days)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Routine (14 calendar days)	
DUE DATE:	AUTHORISED BY:

NOTES:

DP&E use only

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Division	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CCU
<input type="checkbox"/> GD&P	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Richard Hammond
<input type="checkbox"/> Gen Csel	<input type="checkbox"/> Vincent Blake
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pol & Strat	<input type="checkbox"/> C&SE
<input type="checkbox"/> Plan Serv	<input type="checkbox"/> Martin Walsh
<input type="checkbox"/> Fin & Ops	<input type="checkbox"/> Faun Harbord

Branch

Environment and Building Policy

Rose Wakefield

From: Steve Hogan <Steve.Hogan@minister.nsw.gov.au>
Sent: Thursday, 12 January 2017 11:53 AM
To: DPE CSE MCUDOP Mailbox
Subject: IM17/728 - FOR INFO ONLY: Prof. Percy Allan - 01/01/2017 - Coastal Managment SEPP
Attachments: Prof. Percy Allan - 01 01 2017 - Coastal Managment SEPP.EML; TEMPLATE Corro Action Sheet - SOFT.pdf

-----< HP Records Manager Record Information >-----

Record Number: IM17/728
Title : Prof. Percy Allan - 01/01/2017 - Coastal Managment SEPP
Notes : DLO advises for info only.
To Department.
Routine timeframe.
"Thursday, 12 January 2017 at 11:51:18 AM (GMT-11:00) Hogan, Steve (Mr):"

Rose Wakefield

From: digital@dpc.nsw.gov.au
Sent: Sunday, 1 January 2017 10:29 AM
To: Webform Stokes
Subject: Coastal Managment SEPP

Title

Prof

First Name

Percy

Last Name

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10 St Mary's Street

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Subject

Coastal Managment SEPP

Type of Enquiry

comment

Message

Dear Mr Stokes,

We own a beach house in the Illawarra whose embankment to the beach was severely eroded by the severe storms in June.

We have taken remedial action to restore the embankment with gabions containing natural river stones and covered the sloping area with soil and plants to restore its natural appearance.

Meanwhile all our neighbours have waited on the local council to take action which has not yet happened so the erosion continues leaving the area between their homes and the beach ragged and ugly.

We would request that the new Coastal Management SEPP permit landowners to take modest

remedial measures at their own expense if they are compatible with restoring the former natural environment and securing it from severe storms, but not the computer generated tsunamis in current council coastal hazard plans.

To plan for tsunami like conditions is over ambitious and beyond the financial capacity of either individual owners or councils. It would also require works of a scale that would drastically alter the landscape of beachfront NSW.

We appeal to you and your Department to be realistic and practical in setting rules for managing erosion of embankments in front of beach side properties. Simple stone structures and plants that blend in with the natural environment should be permitted.

The alternative is severe coastal erosion and neglect because neither councils nor the state government have the resources to undertake a major rehabilitation of the NSW coastline that would protect it from all storm hazards in future.

Finally, it would be helpful if you and your Department could publish a plain English explanation of the proposed reforms in the SEPP since they are not at all clear to lay people. It is hard to comment on intended changes that are not transparent.

We wish you well in reforming the coastal management framework for NSW in a way that is straightforward, practical and affordable.

That means keeping solutions to coastal erosion small scale and environmentally friendly. Large scale remedies that try to deal with "computer generated storms" (i.e. tsunamis) are unrealistic and will perpetuate the existing uncertainty and conflicts over coastal management.

The lesson from the backlashes to local government mergers and the greyhound racing ban is to tackle problems on a piecemeal basis rather than attempt a grandiose solution that leaves no one satisfied.

Likewise coastal erosion needs a year to year solution to handle severe storms, not a thousand year solution to a theoretical computer generated tsunami that is current policy. The practical should override the perfect in deciding a new coastal management SEPP.

Yours sincerely,

Percy Allan AM and Philippa Smith AM

Attachments

I would like a response

Yes

I would like to receive regular updates from the NSW Government

No