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NSW Department of Planning  
PO Box 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

via email: [nathan.wort@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:nathan.wort@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Dear Nathan

**Re: Submission – Greater Macarthur 2040 – an interim Plan for the Greater Macarthur Growth Area**

We are land owners west of the Appin township. Our property "Elladale" on Elladale Road has been identified in the plan as greenspace. Our land is approximately 2.25ha.

We put forward the following questions in relation to the Greater Macarthur 2040 interim plan.

- Why do developers get to nominate and participate in the NSW Government planning process allocating which properties can be subdivided and which are sterilised for greenspace, roads etc which furthers their own financial gains? Isn't this a conflict of interest. The developers clear large parcels of land both legally and illegally and now absurdly nominate to replant other areas.
- Why are developers currently about to clear a large Cumberland Plain landholding in Appin for approximately 280 houses?
- Why has our property Elladale been excluded from areas to have future development and subsequently been sterilised when the area is already cleared and in one of the most scenic locations with views to the Blue Mountains?
- Why did the department of planning not investigate Elladale properly and note that there is a right of way which has been in existence since the early 1800s which refutes comments by Nathan Wort stating there is only one exit point on our property? This right of way is a second evacuation location to exit in the event of a bushfire. It is part of our bushfire action plan. We use this right of way regularly and maintain it with mowing and grading when needed over the past 30 years. There is also a 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> bushfire exit both north and south on the upper canal at the end of Elladale Road which makes the comments of being a fire risk completely incorrect. There will only be a fire risk if you revegetate the area as green space for biobanking. I spoke to the local Bushfire brigade Captain and was advised our property has low risk of bushfire as it is largely clear and can be defended on all sides and we have good exit points. A large section of the area proposed to be biobanked cannot even

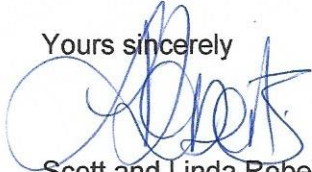
be vegetated due to easements. Due to these facts how can Elladale be allocated as greenspace/biobanking?

- Why is the allocated 200ha green space/biobanking not located on Walker Corporation Land which was originally William Broughton's property? This property (Lachlan Vale, now Morrisons Dairy) overlooking the Cataract Gorge was the site of the historic Appin Massacre which occurred on 17 April 1816. Surely a large green space biobanking on this land as a recreation area would be a symbol of respect to the indigenous people and a more appropriate green space.
- There are indigenous grave sites in the vicinity of the proposed development site on the original Landholding of John Kennedy which were also a result of massacres. Have the proper authorities identified these sites? Have these sites been preserved?
- Appin is the 5<sup>th</sup> oldest colony in Australia with many historical landmarks. What is being done to preserve the historical significance of the area?
- Why are proposed blocks of land for recent and future subdivisions being created so small (sub 300 meters)? This will create a ghetto effect with everyone living in such confined proximity in a rural location.
- What is the proposed location and proposed type of sewerage plant?
- Why was the Appin meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup> November 2018 and subsequent meetings in the following week not properly advertised to the community? Letters did not arrive to local residents until after the event and there was only a foolscap page on the back window of a car in the carpark of Appin Public School advertising Appin Road upgrades and no mention of the Greater Macarthur plan. Why has there been so little community consultation in relation to this plan and unrealistic response timeframes?

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

We look forward to receiving your response to our questions.

Yours sincerely



Scott and Linda Roberts