

EPA REFERENCE: 1003316

YUMBAH AQUACULTURE LIMITED (YUMBAH)

We have read Yumbah's responses to the numerous objections raised, and have no intention of addressing each and every point.

We remain staunchly opposed to this proposal and are sceptical of many of the responses.

We note the word "unlikely" is used on numerous occasions when attempting to mitigate people's concerns regarding various adverse outcomes with this proposal.

"Unlikely" is hardly reassuring and also means that whatever is "unlikely" from Yumbah's point of view is also very possible in the real world.

We also note that many elements of objections will be confined to the site. Noise, odour and dust are "unlikely" to be stopped by the proposed fence; or by mesh over the effluent settling ponds. To claim this to be the case is deceit at worst and ignorance at best.

We're sure Yumbah have limitless funds to commission favourable surveys, reports, measurements, "rates of this, litres of that, concentrations of something else", and comparing this to the Narrawong site! , would seem ludicrous as it is a fraction of the size.

To also compare the discharge of effluent directly into the bay to that produced by dairy cows is also rather superfluous.

Noise & Vibration

We note that Yumbah state that regulated noise criteria is not to achieve inaudibility, but to avoid "nuisance" levels within dwellings. Yumbah's view of what constitutes "nuisance" levels no doubt will differ from those of us subjected to that noise where it is now nonexistent.

Presently the only noise is that which naturally exists in this beautiful peaceful location. Those of us who chose to live here did so because of the absence of any industrial activity – to claim the noise is within "acceptable" limits is simply missing the point. There will be constant noise where at present there is none.

Alteration of Rural Living Zone to exclude aquaculture from the "Intensive animal Husbandry"

Clearly Yumbah exercised considerable undisclosed influence to ensure that the code was altered to its own advantage. Timed and carried out without proper notification or consultation and a complete disregard of all those that would be directly affected by the change.

A disgraceful use of influence to achieve its own ends, and a shameful compliance by the State Government.

Nutrient Load

Yumbah claim that there will be “rapid dispersal” of nutrient laden water.

I do not accept that rapid dispersal of nutrient laden water will be achieved from the outlet pipes which will discharge beyond the surf zone and contaminate the entire water column from bottom to top.

Numerous comparisons with Yumbah Narrawong functioning are largely erroneous given the vastly differing scales of the facilities.

To claim that marine ecology will be unaffected – removing huge amounts of natural sea water and replacing it with warmer effluent laden water - beggars’ belief.

“Scientifically “obtained figures, statistics and explanations to justify this, simply defy common sense.

Whales

There may be no increased physical danger to whales as per Dr Gills report, they simply will not continue to come due to the effluent and altered ecosystem. To claim that the ecosystem will be unaffected due to this facility is ludicrous.

The whales are now coming here to birth – any interference with the current environment puts this directly at risk. – I note the word “unlikely” is used again.

In Summary:

- There will be continuous noise, clearly audible to those of us who live here, where now there is none. Any increase in continuous noise constitutes a “nuisance” to us.
- There will be huge volumes of seawater removed from the bay and similar amounts returned at higher temperatures and with a huge effluent load – where now there is none.
- The marine ecosystems by definition, must be adversely affected by this inflow and outflow of effluent, where they are now largely undisturbed.
- There will be offensive odour, from settlement ponds and other sources, where now there is none.
- Those of us who live here have chosen to do so for the lifestyle, stress free environment, the destruction of which (a foregone conclusion if this goes ahead) will undoubtedly result in

increased stress levels and issues of mental health for residents. This is going hand in hand with the erosion of property values with many have lifesavings invested in.

- The visual impact of such a facility would be of a busy industrial zone, no matter how they try to hide it, no matter what you call it. Where there is now a tranquil, rural landscape (the reason that we all live here.)
- Whatever solutions Yumbah advances to solve the numerous and varied objections to this facility, to even consider placing such a facility in the middle of a rural/residential area, threatening people's homes has already caused untold stress and is affecting resident's mental health.

Quite simply the facility proposed in this location is totally inappropriate under any circumstances whatsoever.

[REDACTED]