

EPA Victoria

Works.approvals@epa.vic.gov.au

Reference 1003316

Yumbah Aquaculture Ltd (Yumbah)

Response to further information supplied.

We refer to the above response from Yumbah and confirm we as a family still firmly object to their proposal. Yes they do seem to have answers to most concerns raised, but they still are missing the point of most objections.

There is still no GUARANTEE that residents surrounding the project will not be affected by noise, odour, vibrations, dust, pests, unsafe traffic (Frank Lodge Lookout area) and general negative impact on the way they currently live and enjoy their lifestyle and local amenity – not only once established, but also for the four year period of construction.

There is also no GUARANTEE that local flora and fauna, and most importantly the visiting whales, will not be affected in some way. We don't believe that anyone could guarantee that – but that is what we are asking, nothing less.

It remains though, no matter how much Yumbah can try

- A project of this size, scale and sensitivity should never be considered to be placed in an area surrounded by EXISTING residences currently enjoying a Rural Living lifestyle – THERE WILL BE A NEGATIVE IMPACT TO THE LOCAL RESIDENTS
- there will be greatly increased traffic on the road our family uses.
- there will be noise, dust, odour and a change in visual aspect from our property.
- There has already been a decrease in the saleability of our home.
- There are potential detrimental impacts to the seabed, rockwall, water table, local marine life and local flora and fauna
- Vegetation will take many years to camouflage the project – if at all
- Access to the beach along Dutton Way for all users WILL BE affected in some way by the pipes and restriction zones
- Information is still missing – the Construction Environment Management Plan is yet to be completed, detailed information on how the traffic will enter and leave the Frank Lodge Lookout from the Princes Hwy, and the report from Aboriginal Victoria is missing.

Yumbah are asking us to trust that they will do their best to mitigate all the concerns raised, that trust has not been earned by Yumbah in the lead up to this point. Why would we put our trust in a company that has given three different reasons as to why they want to build it at the proposed site and/or not the current site, or another site - first it was because the sea level was better along Dutton Way than at the current site, then at another stage it was because if they were to seek to put it along uninhabited coastline, they would never be granted approval to destroy virgin coastline, then at the facilitator meeting, the answer was because the current site was not originally built to cope with such a massive expansion.....Which is it?

How can we trust a company who in the early stages, when a representative (one who would know) was asked what chemicals do you use? replied "we don't use chemicals", yet now we all know they do.

How can we trust a company who wishes to build near the largest woodchip port in Australia, yet opposes a wharf to discharge same being built near them on Kangaroo Island.

Also in conversations with representatives at the meetings it has come to point that for example – they don't know how big the silos will be or what they will really look like – or how big the settling ponds will really be – the response is something along the lines of..we just asked for the biggest we could get – not sure what we really need yet? Information is still missing!!

The current project has been referred to as stage one, where is the information for stage two and beyond. Information is still missing, or purposely being omitted.

What about the power supply that will be needed....where on the plans is the substation going to be located? Whose properties are going to be disturbed by the introduction of three phase power to the area? Information is still missing!

We also have concerns that reports provided are not independent, and paid for by Yumbah.

As with the letters of support, they seem to have been written well before anyone else had any information, and also mostly refer to the company not the proposed site. Pity the letters from Political representatives were not available to view prior to elections last year...again information missing.

With regards to the whales – yes a precedent has been set at the Narrawong farm, that they are seen out the front, but this project is five times the size of the Narrawong farm, there is no precedent for that.

Damage to the current water table at the site is also a huge concern, currently we are all busy watering lawns and gardens etc because they are dry, yet we can look out over the proposed site, and it is green in the middle of January.

To say the Dutton Way is not recognised as a Tourist Destination through the Planning Scheme may be correct – but maybe it should be included – I am sure the owners of the two Caravan Parks and the holiday homes along the Dutton Way would think it should be.

Yumbah rightly so pride themselves on CURRENTLY being Australian owned, what guarantee do they give that will still be the case once funding is sought?

We are concerned many Portlanders are still unaware of the exact location, size and scale of the project, we are still explaining to people where it will be.

One of the few positivesvery few positives..from the project is the creation of jobs for the local community, but what policy will they follow in awarding contracts to locals and jobs to locals.

The project may meet many of the required technical conditions, parameters and zoning definitions etc, but common sense says that it does not belong along the Dutton Way.

Thank you for your time,

