

Manyana Matters introduction for RHVA regarding our submission to the INQUIRY INTO THE PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES. NSW Legislative Council.

After the devastation of the 2019/2020 black summer fires, Manyana Matters incorporated to stop the destruction of a local threatened species habitat that was earmarked for development. It soon became clear that this development was just one of many outdated development approvals (Zombie DAs') throughout NSW that threatened the survival of many species.

Over the last 4 years MMEA has collaborated and assisted many environmentally based organisations. Combined, these campaigns add up to potentially thousands of hectares of bushland lost along our precious coast. Much of it is habitat for threatened species on the brink of extinction that cannot withstand any further loss of habitat.

MMEA realised that to protect our biodiversity for future generations and within the context of climate change we need planning and environmental laws to change. Lobbying politicians and organising with other groups has been a major part of our work over the last few years focusing on that end. This political pressure has created many positive opportunities in the environmental space including a report by Greens MP Cate Faehrmann titled "Concreting the Coast - the developer onslaught destroying our coastal villages and environment". This led to the formation of Coastal Residents United - a powerful alliance of over 30 groups from Byron Bay to Tuross heads sharing information, resources and strategies to ensure developers comply with current environmental laws and that those laws are updated and take into account the effects of the 2019/20 fires and climate change. MMEA along with the other groups created petitions which gained enough signatures to be tabled in parliament.

In conjunction with these petitions the NSW legislative Council has established an INQUIRY INTO THE PLANNING SYSTEM AND THE IMPACTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITIES.

Chair, Higginson, Sue (GRNS, LC Member)

Deputy Chair, Ruddick, John (LDP, LC Member)

Members : Buttigieg, Mark (ALP, LC Member)

D'Adam, Anthony (ALP, LC Member)

Farlow, Scott (LIB, LC Member)

Munro, Jacqui (LIB, LC Member)

Primrose, Peter (ALP, LC Member)

The Inquiry will run for most of 2024.

The initial process was a call for submissions. MMEA has produced a submission which has been sent to the inquiry and which is now shared with RHVA.

Regards,

The Committee,

Manyana Matters Environmental Association.

<https://www.dropbox.com/t/mrcwl1uhlwokZuBY>