

Dear friend,

Our campaign to save the precious unburnt forest in our community that we call the Manyana Special Conservation Reserve (MSCR) has reached a critical stage.

## **We need your urgent help!**

**Any day now**, the Federal Department of the Environment staff will make a recommendation to Environment Minister Tanya Plibersek on whether to deny or approve the destruction of the Manyana Special Conservation Reserve (officially called the Manyana Beach Estate).

Our local Federal MP Fiona Phillips (Member for Gilmore) has agreed to approach Minister Plibersek on our community's behalf to request that she personally scrutinises the proposed development.

### **What you can do**

It would greatly help Mrs Phillips if **her email inbox was flooded with your sentiments of concern** and support for the preservation of the Manyana forest.

**Will you take just five minutes right now** to email her at [fiona.phillips.mp@aph.gov.au](mailto:fiona.phillips.mp@aph.gov.au) to let her know what the MSCR means to you, and why it should be saved forever?

### **What to write**

Anything! We encourage you to thank Fiona Phillips for her continued support for our campaign but otherwise, just say whatever comes to mind. You don't need facts or figures or evidence or a submission guide this time.

You just need to tell her how you feel about the future MSCR and the thought of it being bulldozed and destroyed forever. Even a short few lines will help!

Thank you for acting now. And if you need some extra background information,

scroll down, or go to [our newly launched website](#).

Yours in solidarity,

Jorj Lowrey  
Founder, MMEA

PS: Can you urgently email our local MP [Fiona Phillips](#) and tell her why the Manyana Special Conservation Reserve means so much to you? Just a few lines will do if you're pressed for time.



## Background

The proposed Manyana Beach Estate development – 20.2 hectares of mature forest miraculously saved from the Black Summer bushfires – was declared a Controlled Action by the Federal Department of the Environment under the EPBC Act. After a

3.5 year wait, Ozy Homes has submitted final Preliminary Documentation (PD) to resolve this action.

The documents have been uploaded to our [Dropbox](#) if you would like to look at them – they're pretty much the same as the earlier version.

The purpose of the final PD is *supposed* to be for the proponent to respond to submissions made by the general public and qualified experts so that the Minister can make a decision on the fate of the Manyana forest. You yourself may well be one of the 1,068 submitters back in July 2021. But the new PD does not address the submissions.

**The proponent has dismissed, ignored or de-valued the evidence submitted by members of the public and scientific experts in response to the draft PD.**

We have a long list of other significant concerns\* about the content of the PD, including the fact that:

- The proponent has conducted no additional ecological surveys since the draft PD in June 2021. This is despite the Department having asked them to do so.
- There has been no update on the data regarding Plant Community Types (PCT's) since 2006, despite expert evidence that endangered ecological communities such as littoral rainforest occur on the site.

The Minister will now make a 'proposed decision', which she *may* publish on the internet, and she *may* invite public comment. But we feel by then, it may be too late. We want to start advocating before she makes any decision. We will do this initially through Fiona Phillips MP. That's why we need you to [write to her](#) and tell her how you feel about saving the forest.

\*let us know if you'd like to see the detailed list of concerns.