



Office of
SENATOR THE HON NICK MINCHIN
Minister for Finance and Administration

Mr Geoff Brown
Convenor
ADI Residents Action Group
PO Box 4134
WERRINGTON NSW 2747

27 APR 2005

Dear Mr Brown

Thank you for your letter of 30 March 2005 to the Minister for Finance and Administration, Senator the Hon Nick Minchin, concerning the management of the former ADI Limited (ADI) site at St Marys. The Minister has asked me to reply on his behalf.

The Australian Government shares your interest in the preservation of the environment at St Marys. I note your concerns that New South Wales National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) may not accept all of the land at St Marys on the Register of the National Estate (RNE) into the Regional Park. However, I understand that no final decision has been made on whether NPWS will accept ownership of the land and that the views of NPWS are the subject of ongoing discussion within the Community Reference Group, of which the ADI Residents Action Group is a member.

The Australian Government's Department of the Environment and Heritage has advised that whether the Residual RNE land is transferred to the State Government for inclusion in the Regional Park or remains in ComLand ownership, the landowner, in accordance with a plan of management, must protect all RNE values.

In June 2004 the Australian Government completed the sale of its interest in ComLand, including its interest in the St Marys site, to Lend Lease. The sale does not affect the conservation values of the site but, rather, the ownership of the developer. Accordingly, Lend Lease would be responsible for protecting the RNE values of any residual RNE land that it continued to hold.

Thank you for bringing your concerns to the Australian Government's attention.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Wawn', written over a white background.

David Wawn
Chief of Staff