



PENRITH CITY COUNCIL

Serving Our Community

Our Ref : 4130/24; 4130/2 Part 65;
Contact : Roger Nethercote
Telephone: 4732 7713

31 March, 2005

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

Dear Geoff,

ADI site, St Marys - RNE Lands

I refer to your facsimile dated 23 March, 2005 in which you raise concern at the possibility that some of the bushland listed on the Register of the National Estate, known as the residual RNE lands, may not be incorporated into the Regional Park to be owned and managed by the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC).

As you would be aware, the St Marys Development Agreement (The Deed) provides for the transfer of approximately 850 ha of bushland to DEC as Regional Park and for the residual RNE lands totalling 47 ha to be studied as part of the Regional Park Plan of Management (PoM) process to determine whether they should be managed as part of the Regional Park or as a separate entity. The Deed notes that if the latter approach was taken, the landowner (now Delfin Lend Lease) must ensure that the listed values of the residual RNE lands are protected in accordance with the PoM.

Council has previously raised concerns at the time the Deed was finalised by the State Government and the Joint Venture Partners, that the residual RNE lands had not then been incorporated into the Regional Park and took the view that the most appropriate management outcome would be for all the bushland listed on the Register of the National Estate to be managed as a single Regional Park entity by DEC.

Council wrote the the Minister for the State Minister for the Environment, the Hon Bob Debus in April 2004 expressing its disappointment that the residual RNE lands had not been included in the Regional Park and sought confirmation from him that the best arrangements for the establishment of the Regional Park have been negotiated and will be delivered. The Minister replied that approximately 50 ha of RNE listed bushland would be considered for inclusion within the Regional Park and that the appropriate vehicle for that decision-making would be the PoM process for the Regional Park.

Council is currently examining issues raised at the last meeting of the Regional Park Community Reference Group (CRG) and is preparing a response on the residual RNE lands for the next meeting. It is clear that this matter requires further review and refinement by the CRG before a decision can be made.

Yours faithfully,

Roger Nethercote
Environmental Planning Manager

