



Office of the
Minister for Defence

Parliament House
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Mr Jeff Angel
Chairperson
Green Games Watch 2000 Inc
PO Box 62
BONDI JUNCTION NSW 2022

03 JUL 1998

Dear Mr Angel:

I refer to your letter of 3 June 1998 to the Minister for Defence seeking his support for federal funding to establish a regional park at the ADI St Marys property. The Hon Ian McLachlan AO MP has asked me to respond on his behalf.

Although Commonwealth-owned, ADI Limited was established as a Corporations Law company with an independent Board of Directors responsible for the business activities of the company. The St Marys property is not Commonwealth land; it is owned by ADI. As a commercial decision, the Company has entered into a joint venture with Lend Lease to redevelop the site. Significant consultation has been undertaken to date by ADI/Lend Lease with relevant local, State and Commonwealth Government authorities.

As part of the rezoning process for the site, the NSW Government established a committee under Section 22 of the NSW Environmental Planning and Assessment Act to conduct a detailed assessment of the ADI/Lend Lease Rezoning Proposal and Masterplan. The Penrith City Council was represented on this committee. In September 1997, the committee submitted its report to the NSW Government, broadly supporting the ADI/Lend Lease proposal. In February 1998, the NSW Government announced that, based on the recommendations of the report, a Regional Environmental Plan (REP) would be developed in relation to the site. The development of the REP, a precondition to rezoning, will include community consultation.

That said, the Minister is aware of the environmental sensitivities of the St Marys site, including in relation to endangered species. The Minister is also aware that the *Australian Heritage Commission Act 1975* and the *Environment Protection (Impact of Proposals) Act 1974* may have implications for the impending sale of ADI. These issues are being addressed through the Government's sale process.

Yours sincerely

PETER JENNINGS
Senior Adviser

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