

## **ADI Residents Action Group**

### **Media Release**

**Monday, 12 July 2004**

#### **Residents call for NSW Government to postpone ADI Site Conservation Plan process**

The ADI Residents Action Group (ADI RAG) opposed to the development of the 1535 ADI Site at St Marys is calling on the NSW Government to postpone a process to determine the final conservation areas for the site until after the Federal Election and until other planning issues have been resolved.

A community reference group formed by the National Parks and Wildlife Service (NPWS) to develop a draft Plan of Management for 850 hectares of the site, zoned by the State Government as Regional Park, is due to meet and commence planning the Regional Park on July 20 2004. Once a final conservation area is determined the State will amend SREP 30 the Regional Environmental Plan zoning the ADI Site. ADI RAG, which is on the reference group, claim that it is illogical to commence a process to determine final conservation boundaries for the amendment of SREP 30 until major planning issues have been resolved and the political implications of the upcoming Federal Election have been considered.

“We believe that the final conservation area for the ADI Site is still unknown due to factors such as the upcoming Federal Election and the fact that Blacktown and Penrith Council are opposed to aspects of Lend Leases plan that propose to fill 100 hectares of floodplain.” Said, Geoff Brown for ADI RAG.

“The development of the ADI Site will be an Federal election issue and may decide the outcome of some key Western Sydney seats. The Save the ADI Site Party will be a wrecking ball for the major parties, specifically Labor, in key Western Sydney marginals if they fail to address our concerns with the development. We should not forget the 2001 election when 250 additional hectares of the site was saved only two weeks from the election.”

“The filling of 100 hectares of floodplain is an aspect of Lend Leases plan that the NSW Government must address now and not in 2008 when the majority of the filling is proposed. There is every likelihood that planning approval for this proposal will never be granted because Lend Lease need to provide 1 million cubic metres (100 hectares) of compensatory storage, meaning, they need to find an extra 1 million cubic metres of space somewhere on the site to take floodwater. This is virtually impossible and therefore the NSW Government should stop ignoring this glaring anomaly and simply tell Lend Lease to scrap development of this part of the site now and include it in the conservation area. ”

“It’s just plain crazy to commence a conservation plan when the conservation area is yet unknown. The dilemma of where on the ADI Site Jackie Kelly’s 100-hectare Central Park is going to go is another headache that the NSW Government has ignored. There is no way ADI RAG will agree to it going in publicly owned land set aside for conservation.”

“ADI RAG has put our concerns about these matters in writing to Bob Debus and Dianne Beamer.”

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