

Media Release

ADI Residents Action Group

Wednesday, 26 July 2006

NSW Government call for a new ADI Site survey outrages residents Bulldozers roll as Government admits they don't know what's on the ADI Site

Residents opposed to the controversial development of the 1545 ha ADI Site at St Marys are angered and shocked by comments by the NSW Governments National Parks and Wildlife Service that it only now intends to carry out a detailed environmental assessment of 900 hectares of the ADI Site, 3 years after development approval was given and after developer, Delfin Lend Lease, has already cleared extensive areas of endangered bushland to build its first 130 hectare suburb in the Blacktown LGA.

The comments came after residents called on NPWS to protect the entire 900 Regional Park - land that soon will be transferred to the ownership of the NSW Government – with a feral animal proof fence. NPWS then commented that the fence could not go ahead until **they know what is on the site, that they need to do detailed survey work first**. There has been over a decade of environmental studies paid for by the developers that NPWS claimed were thorough and scientific. With NPWS approval Planning NSW zoned nearly 600 hectares of the ADI Site, including huge areas of the endangered Cumberland Plain Woodland, for development.

“This is verging on criminal. We have been calling on the NSW Government for years not to allow any development to occur until an independent scientific survey of the whole ADI Site was done because we knew that the environmental studies paid for by the developer, Delfin Lend Lease were dodgy. NPWS ignored our concerns, backing the developer, with Simon Smith, the Deputy Director General of the Department of Environment and Conservation, claiming the ADI Site to be ‘one of the most surveyed development sites in NSW’. Now, with huge areas of the sites endangered vegetation already cleared for housing, NPWS have the gall to tell us that they don't yet know what is on the site, that they need to do detailed studies. This is outrageous.” Said, Geoff Brown, for the ADI Residents Action Group.

“This is blatant hypocrisy by the NSW Government and whatever green credentials they had in Western Sydney are in tatters. Huge areas of endangered Cumberland Plain vegetation are to be bulldozed because they buried their head in the sand for years ignoring the fact that the developer's studies of the entire site were erroneous and lacked scientific rigour. Now all of a sudden, as they are on the verge of taking ownership of 900 hectares of the Site, NPWS consider the developers decade long studies of the 900 Regional Park area invalid.”

“Despite the NSW Governments rhetoric on the amount of green space they are providing in western Sydney the truth is that there is ad hoc destruction of our bushland occurring and the ADI Site is a classic example of what they are really up to. “

[http://www.talkstmarys.com.au/talkstmarys/main.nsf/images/news20040623_factsmyths.pdf/\\$file/news20040623_factsmyths.pdf](http://www.talkstmarys.com.au/talkstmarys/main.nsf/images/news20040623_factsmyths.pdf/$file/news20040623_factsmyths.pdf)

<http://www.adisite.org/Correspondence%20pdf/08%20-fax%20to%20Lisa%20Corbyn%20DG%20of%20DEC%206th%20August%202004.pdf>

<http://www.adisite.org/Correspondence%20in%20pdf/07-19%20August%202004%20-%20DEC%20response%20-%20ADI%20issues.pdf>

Further comment : Geoff Brown 0431222602