

ADI Residents Action Group

Media Release
5th April 2005

Emergency Meeting to discuss ADI Site Regional Park Rip-off

The ADI Residents Action Group will be holding an Emergency Public Meeting at 7.30 pm, Thursday the 14th of April at the Nth St Marys Neighbourhood Centre, 1 Poplar St Nth St Marys.

ADI RAG is encouraging members of the public to find out what it can do to respond to plans by the NSW Government to reduce the amount of public land at the ADI Site that will be protected as Regional Park.

"ADI RAG realises that the ADI Site campaign has been a long drawn out saga. But we can't allow the State and Federal Governments to rip us off again at this late stage, we can't let them get away with it."

"The public fought very hard to save the whole site and the absolute line in the sand that we should accept is that 900 ha of that site is conserved as Regional Park. That is what the Federal Government and Lend Lease promised since 2002 and that is what we expect."

"The meeting will give people the chance to find out more about what is actually happening at the ADI Site and to allow them to voice their opinion on what should happen next to stop this rip off of the public estate."

"This could reinvigorate the campaign and we would expect further public meetings to be held so that Jackie Kelly, Diane Beamer, Lend Lease and Penrith Council can face the public to explain how such a simple process as transferring land from commonwealth to state ownership could have become so corrupted."

"This is a very bad look for Jackie Kelly and the Federal Government. They owned the whole site; they said that all 828 ha of the site listed in the Register of the National Estate (RNE) would be transferred to the NSW NPWS as a Regional Park that is not happening, they have deceived us. Diane Beamer and Bob Debus are just plain hopeless and are selling out the public estate just to save a few bucks for the State Government. Penrith Council is looking for somewhere to hide on this issue."

"This whole issue could be resolved if Lend Lease sacrificed a few hectares of their land to make the Regional Park more manageable for NPWS. Diane Beamer could play hardball with Lend Lease to force their hand. She had no problem doing this when she was under pressure from the Daily Telegraph last year. She sent her Chief of Staff to meet with Lend Lease and the next thing Lend Lease are announcing the wetland area regularly featured in the Tele would become Regional Park."

Further Comment - Geoff Brown 0431 222602