Objection to the Long Bow Point Golf Course SSD 8406

Dear Commission members

I strongly object to the proposal to build a golf course at Long Bow Point and ask that the proposal not be permitted.

I am a long term resident of the Shoalhaven, an environmentalist and community member, committed to the best outcomes for our City. I am a lover of the natural bushland, wildlife, birds and their habitat. I visit the Culburra area to see friends but also to visit Lake Wollumboola to see the wonderful local and migratory birds that it supports. The lake is listed under Australian legislation and international migratory bird agreements as internationally significant habitat for migratory birds. It is also recognized by Birdlife International and the International Union for Conservation of Nature as a globally important Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) particularly for Black swan and Chestnut Teal. It also supports over 100 bird species with at least 23 Threatened. The lake, sandbar and parts of its catchment are included in Jervis Bay National Park.

I personally believe this says totally why the Long Bow Point Golf Course proposal must be refused. The Precautionary Principle must be applied, there can be no impacts permitted to change the wonderful ecology of our lake.

Locating a golf course in the Lake Wollumboola catchment ignores consistent, long-term expert advice and NSW Government policy – that the lake catchment especially Long Bow Point, is unsuitable for urban development and should be zoned for 'Environmental Protection'.

The natural surface and ground water runoff from Long Bow Point and surrounds is critical in maintaining the lake's water quality, its wetlands and aquatic environment and abundant wildlife. There can be no mistakes permitted.

The application cannot guarantee no adverse impacts on the lake's sensitive ecology would occur due to pollution of surface and ground water from golf course fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides. Again no mistakes can be permitted, the Precautionary Principle must apply.

The golf course would involve clearing 32.2 ha of high conservation value coastal vegetation with extensive impacts on Threatened Ecological Communities and at least 65 Threatened species of plants and animals.

The application also did not include a Clubhouse and the likely impacts that would arise from such a development.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment

Norman Webb