NSW Independent Planning Commission

We are strongly opposed to any modification of the subdivision plan which reduces the size of the proposed reserves of the area's natural vegetation.

This natural vegetation, a forest of mature eucalypts and other trees, is an integral part of the character of the area, and its complete removal from the other parts of the subdivision has been an appalling piece of urban vandalism.

All levels of government are now recognising the importance of tree canopy in urban areas, for its cooling qualities, support of wildlife and simple visual amenity. The subdivision reserves as initially proposed were far from adequate, and any further reduction in their size would simply exacerbate the problems that have already been created.

The subdivision adjoins Garrad Reserve, a recognised and significant bio-banking reserve. This reserve is now under significant threat from weed encroachment due to the way in which the subdivision has been cleared. All forested areas still existing in the subdivision should be retained in order to minimise the impact on Garrad Reserve.

We understand the proposed changes involve the creation of a "croquet park" in the area originally intended to be reserve. As far as we are aware, there is no un-met demand for croquet facilities in the Milton-Ulladula district. It seems much more likely that this is simply a pretext to allow further clearing of vegetation, and that another modification of the subdivision plan will then be sought to allow residential development. This is not acceptable.

Yours sincerely,

Anne and John Croker