MY NAME IS ALAN PENDLETON, A LOCAL RESIDENT AND PRESIDENT OF THE CULBURRA BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION. I WILL EXPLAIN MY BACKGROUND.

50 YEARS IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT INCLUDING 30 YEARS AS AN EMPLOYEE OF BLACKTOWN CITY COUNCIL AS AN ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH AND BUILDING INSPECTOR WITH THE LAST PERIOD AS THE DIRECTOR OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL AND BUILDING DEPARTMENT AND PRINCIPAL BUILDI NG INSPECTOR FOR THE CITY. I WAS THEN ELECTED COUNCILLOR FOR 21 YEARS DURING WHICH I WAS MAYOR FOR 6 ½ YEARS.

I WAS THE INAUGURAL CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTOR OF THE WESTERN SYDNEY WASTE BOARD.

A DIRECTOR AND CHAIR OF WESTERN SYDNEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND THEN THE CHAIR OF THE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT AUSTRALIA COMMITTEE FOR THE SYDNEY REGION.

I ONLY OUTLINE MY EXPERIENCE TO HIGHLIGHT MY INVOLVEMENT WITH URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN WESTERN SYDNEY FOR MANY YEARS AS BLACKTOWN CITY HAS BEEN ONE OF THE FASTEST DEVELOPING AREAS IN NEW SOUTH WALES WITH A CURRENT POPULATION OF OVER 350,000.

FOR THIS REASON I FIND IT DIFFICULT TO COMPREHEND THE OBJECTIONS TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF ZONED LAND WHICH IS BEFORE THE COMMISSIION.

THE OBJECTION TO THE REMOVAL OF THE BUSHLAND CAN BE OVERCOME BY THE PROVISION OF COMPENSATORY HABITAT OR OFFSETS WHICH IS OCCURRING ALL OVER NEW SOUTH WALES AND WHICH HAS BEEN A POLICY IN WESTERN SYDNEY.

WITH THE LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN THE SCHOFIELDS/RIVERSTONE AREA - WHERE I LIVED - THE STATE GOVERNMENT DECIDED THAT NOT ONE TREE HAD TO BE KEPT – VIRTUALLY A SCORCHED EARTH POLICY.

THERE ARE ALWAYS OBJECTIONS TO ANY MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS AND WHILST THESE MUST BE CONSIDERED FOR THIS DEVELOPMENT IN MY VIEW THERE IS OVERPOWERING SUPPORT FROM THE COMMUNITY FOR THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT TO PROCEED. THE CULBURRRA BEACH PROGRESS ASSOCIATION, OF WHICH I AM THE PRESIDENT, HAS UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED THE DEVELOPMENT.

CULBURRA BEACH AT THE PRESENT TIME IS AT THE CROSSROADS AS TO GOING FORWARD OR GOING BACK. THE IMMINENT CLOSURE OF THE HARDWARE STORE AND THE CLOSURE OF ELDERS REAL ESTATE IS THE BAROMETER FOR THE RETAILING IN CULBURRA BEACH UNLESS THERE IS A CHANGE - WHICH THIS NEW DEVELOPMENT WILL ACHIEVE.

I BELIEVE THAT THE ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS HAVE BEEN CONSIDERED IN THE DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION TO ADDRESS THE ISSUES FROM THE OBJECTIONS.

IT MUST ALSO BE REMEMBERED THAT EXISTING DEVELOPMENT HAS NOT BEEN SUBJECTED TO THE SAME REQUIREMENTS AS ANY NEW DEVELOPMENT.

IN CONCLUSION THE WEST CULBURRA DEVELOPMENT HAS THE OVERPOWERING SUPPORT OF THE COMMUNITY AND THE FUTURE OF THE DISTRICT RESTS IN THE APPROVAL OF THE RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT.

THANK YOU.