



LES MITCHELL

OBJECT

Submission No: 195318

Organisation:	Key issues: <i>Biodiversity impacts, Impacts on koala habitat, Noise and vibration</i>
Location: <i>New South Wales 2444</i>	
Submitter Type: <i>a subject matter expert or academic</i>	
Attachment:	

Submission date: 8/29/2024 5:22:01 PM

I am a qualified landscape ecologist and object to this project because of its irreversible impacts on biodiversity. I made a submission objecting to this project in 2019 and reiterate my reasons for objecting.

Since 2019 there has been a major reduction in koala numbers in the Port Macquarie area, partly because of the 2019/20 wild fires but also because of the further reduction of koala habitat due to urban expansion. Since 2019, the koala has been listed as endangered in NSW and this should lead to greater consideration in assessing this project. Any further loss of habitat is unacceptable and offsetting the loss of vegetation on this site cannot provide additional habitat for the koala. In fact it will be a net loss.

The Spotted Gum forest on the site also provides feeding habitat for the critically endangered Swift Parrot whose numbers continue to decline.

The climate emergency is only increasing in severity and it behoves the Government to do all in its power to arrest the further loss of native forests which are vital to absorbing carbon and mitigating the impacts of global warming.
