



Forestry Corporation of NSW ABN 43 141 857 613

Macquarie Region

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15/11/2013

Ref No.: Reference Number

Sherilyn Hanrahan
Strategic Land Use Planner
Lithgow Council
PO Box 19
Lithgow NSW 2790

Lithgow City Council

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Dear Sherilyn

Lithgow City Council Draft LEP 2013

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Draft Lithgow City Council Local Environment Plan 2013.

Forestry Corporation of NSW is the primary manager of softwood plantations in the Lithgow area, and also manages an extensive native forest estate. The softwood plantation industry is a major employer and contributor to gross regional product in the Central Tablelands. FCNSW supports the intention of the LEP to protect land resources for forestry through appropriate zoning for development, and to reduce the potential for conflict between forestry land uses and other land uses. FCNSW would like to respond to the request for consultation with the following points:

1. Zoning of Forestry Corporation NSW Estate

We are agreeable to the zoning of the FC Estate as RU3 and see no conflict with any adjoining land use zones at this stage.

2. Approval of mining within the FCNSW Estate

FCNSW has no authority to approve mining within the State Forest, this process is managed by DPI Minerals, therefore we cannot comment on the zoning for open cut mining.

3. Private landholders immediately surrounded by Forestry RU3 zone

For these areas of land FCNSW requests that the council remain consistent with the limitations under the RU1 and RU2 zoning for areas zoned other than RU1 and RU2.

4. FCNSW response to the Lithgow Land Use Strategy dated 6 Sept 2011 (attached)

FCNSW would like to re-iterate the points made in the letter dated 6 Sept 2011, acknowledging that the council may already have implemented these suggestions into the plan. The points relate to:

- A proscription on new dwellings within 150 metres from the State Forest boundary
- Consideration of haulage routes in development zoning
- Access to private property through State Forest

- Subdivision limit of 40ha

I would be happy to discuss any of the above points with your further, and can be contacted on 6330 1013 or 6331 2044 Thursdays and Fridays.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'McKlootwijk'.

Melanie Klootwijk
Fire and Stewardship Supervisor

FOR JASON MOLKENTIN
REGIONAL MANAGER, NORTHERN SOFTWOODS



FORESTS NSW

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Sherilyn Hanrahan
Strategic Land Use Planner
Lithgow Council
PO Box 19
Lithgow NSW 2790

6 September 2011

Dear Sherilyn,

Lithgow Land Use Strategy

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Draft Lithgow Land Use Strategy and apologies for the delay in providing our response.

ForestsNSW is the primary manager of softwood plantations in the Lithgow area, and also manages an extensive native forest estate. The softwood plantation industry is a major employer and contributor to gross regional product in the Central Tablelands. FNSW supports the intention of the LUS to protect land resources for forestry through appropriate zoning for development, and to reduce the potential for conflict between forestry land uses and other land uses. Forests NSW requests the following be taken into consideration as part of the Lithgow LUS.

1. A proscription on new dwellings within 150 metres from the State Forest boundary.

Forests NSW has been in the process of consulting with councils across the Central Tablelands regarding a minimum distance to minimise conflict between new dwelling developments and forestry activities. Activities which occur in state forest include 24 hour timber harvesting and haulage, wildfire control, hazard reduction burning, roading operations, hunting, and motorised and non-motorised recreational uses. A buffer of 150 metres is considered appropriate for safety and amenity reasons.

2. Consideration of haulage routes in development zoning

The impacts of log haulage through residential areas can be a significant source of conflict. Forests NSW strongly supports Councils inclusion of the haulage route map in the LUS, and consideration of these major haulage

networks when planning future development. Focusing rural residential development in key areas around existing townships assists Forests NSW in planning haulage routes to minimise impacts on the community.

Forests NSW also requests that any development proposals impacting on road access into State Forests be referred to Forests NSW for comment.

3. Access to private property through State Forest

The control of forest roads and discretion to allow their use is vested in Forests NSW through the Forestry Regulation (2009). In this context, it should be understood that members of the public do not have unfettered rights to use forest roads as if they were public roads. Forests NSW does not object to members of the public using roads within State forests, however new developments on private land need to ensure they have sufficient legal and practical access.

4. Subdivision limit of 40ha

FNSW supports the proposal to increase the subdivision limit from 40 hectares. Many of the activities which occur in State Forests are not considered compatible with rural lifestyle living, and small residential lots adjacent to State Forest often lead to conflict.

I would be happy to discuss any of the above points with you further, and can be contacted on 6330 1035 or 6331 2044 Mondays to Thursdays.

Yours faithfully,



Rebecca Pagan
Environment and Compliance Forester

**FOR GAVIN JEFFRIES
REGIONAL MANAGER**