

Mr Peter Gesling
General Manager
Port Stephens Council
PO BOX 42
Raymond Terrace NSW 2324

10/21394
10/22591

Dear Mr Gesling,

Pending LEP – Draft Port Stephens LEP 2000 - Land at Soldiers Point

I refer to your letter dated 1 October 2010, requesting that the above draft LEP be converted into a planning proposal under the current Part 3 process.

I am writing to notify you that I have determined, as the delegate of the Director General, under clause 12(2) of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Regulation 2000* that the former LEP plan-making provisions cease to apply to the draft LEP. The current provisions of Part 3 of the EP&A Act now apply.

Furthermore I have, as the delegate for the Minister for Planning, determined under clause 122 (2) of Schedule 6 to the EP&A Act to dispense with all the conditions precedent up to section 56(8) of the EP&A Act for the making of this draft LEP.

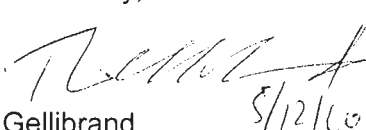
Commencement of the Planning Proposal at section 57(1) is supported. The planning proposal is to be made publicly available for 28 days. Under section 57(2) of the Act, I am satisfied that the planning proposal is in a form that can be made publicly available for community consultation.

The amending local environmental plan (LEP) is to be finalised within 6 months of the date of this letter. Council's request for the Department to draft and finalise the LEP should be made 6 weeks prior to the projected publication date.

The State Government is committed to reducing the time taken to complete LEPs by tailoring the steps in the process to the complexity of the proposal, and by providing clear and publicly available justification for each plan at an early stage. In order to meet these commitments, the Minister may take action under section 54(2) (d) of the EP&A Act if time frames outlined in this determination are not met.

Should you have any queries in regard to this matter, please contact Mr Paul Maher of the Department's Hunter & Central Coast Regional Team on 49042700.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Gellibrand
Deputy Director General
Plan Making & Urban Renewal
(as delegate of the Minister and the Director General)