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13/10/2020

MR Andrew Gregory 133 Hudson PDE Clareville NSW 2107 info@andrewgregory.com.au

RE: DA2020/1163 - 24 Wandeen Road CLAREVILLE NSW 2107

I am extremely concerned with the nature of this development in the Pittwater area, it's an undeveloped block with protected Spotted Gums and a plan for a dwelling that removes significant trees and affects the existing environment.

We have vulnerable species trying to survive in our local area, two months ago, less than a kilometre from this site a Powerful Owl pair had their breeding tree compromised when clearing happened on a similar, recently subdivided, undeveloped block.

Why are there no wildlife surveys on undeveloped blocks prior to sale or with DA applications?

The Northern Beaches Council Local Strategic Planning Statement 2020 listed environmental principles,

- Protect core areas and areas of high environmental value from urban development
- Conserve and restore threatened species habitat
- Retain native vegetation and maintain or enhance ecological functions in core areas and wildlife corridors (connection zones).

In the Pittwater area the wildlife corridors exist in our backyards. I have been monitoring and recording data on Clareville's Powerful Owls for the last 4 years. Species move through the canopy in this valley on the western side of Angophora Reserve. They include numerous bird species as well as Squirrel Gliders, Sugar Gliders, Micro Bats, Ringtail Possums, Boobook Owls, Tawny Frogmouth and Powerful Owls.

Developments that remove significant trees, destroy habitat. Removing the canopy of existing trees also affects the micro climate, contributing to the heating of our area and the further loss of habitat.

Too many significant trees have gone from Pittwater in the last few years. If this continues, we will lose vulnerable wildlife in our area, the canopy loss will never be replaced. At present the remaining wildlife in our area is under critical stress.

What have we learnt from the local extinction of our koalas thirty years ago?