
Sent: 5/12/2021 1:19:35 PM
Subject: DA 1 Clarke Street, Narrabeen (DA2021/1612) Sea wall

Dear Northern Beaches Council/ Northern Beaches Council Planning Committee,

Re: DA 1 Clarke Street, Narrabeen (DA2021/1612)

<https://eservices.northernbeaches.nsw.gov.au/ePlanning/live/Public/XC.Track/SearchApplication.aspx?id=2014352>

Having resided at 7 Narrabeen Park Pde Nth Narrabeen for 11 years, this sea wall proposal exemplifies the ongoing failure of the NSW Liberal government private certification system which has resulted in unprecedented building flaws and litigation as it feeds unchecked greed of developers and landowners with scant regard for the knock on effects of brutalist and invasive geoengineering. The existing system, which relies on “pay for desired opinion/ sign off” expert reports has created a structural, financial, and legal mess.

This project exemplifies the inadequate consideration and protections by this council for the local environment (both on public and private land), the need for public use and amenities (being Narrabeen Beach) for recreation and the deleterious effects this project will have on surrounding public land. To rely on a paucity of private reports presented, paid for by the owners for the benefit of the owners, without any reports sought in reply from the likes of CSIRO, peak hydrology bodies and other peak scientific bodies as to the cost/ benefit of property buybacks, less destructive or publicly useful wall options or long term viability projections of the wall exemplifies poor climate change adaptation practices.

The council’s report reply commentary is lacking any consideration of current hydrological modelling practices

<https://geoscienceletters.springeropen.com/articles/10.1186/s40562-021-00193-9>.

The council’s report reply commentary is similarly lacking any consideration of the known long term reliable effects of these types of walls in places like the United Kingdom and Hawaii.

Further, council's consideration of the submitted reports lacks any consideration of the complex interplay between the artificially constructed North Narrabeen lagoon mouth dunes and the proposed sea walls/ sea wall extension. Given the obvious relationship of the two structures in relation to sand/ water movement, consultation with WaterNSW or the Federal Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment experts would seem the minimum due diligence in relation to the short and long term impacts of this type of large scale geoengineering of our coastlines.

The current proposed "brutalist" structured sea wall will undoubtedly save the adjacent properties behind the sea wall at the expense of forfeiture of the entire adjacent dune ecosystem and beach regeneration/ nourishment from the dunes. In relation to the public and environmental importance of the area, it beggars belief that more suitable options going to the issue of suitable coastal management has not been properly considered.

More suitable options in line with current international best practice have already been proposed by Surfrider and a number of other ecologically focussed organisations.

It is a sad commentary on the accountability and transparency of the council that so few people are aware of the monstrosity you have already approved and seem certain to continue to approve given past actions on this matter.

Please do not hesitate to contact the writer should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Kristel Ness