

From: Helen Ollerenshaw [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, 22 April 2014 7:57 AM
To: Committees
Subject: Submission of Legislative Act variation.

Dear Committee Members.

I have some genuine concerns, about this proposed legislation.

These include:

That this legislation is a veiled attempt to use the equivalent of 'call-in' powers at the beginning of a project not at the end of a Development Application and be condoned by all Legislative Assembly (LA) members.

That the applications will be presented to the LA members with a recommendation to agree rather than a full a proper investigation of the development being sought.

That the Heritage Act and the Tree Preservation Act can be over turned.

That by disregarding heritage precincts within the ACT we will have one party that can damage, destroy and eliminate areas of significant history, layout and planning that was the purpose of having a Nations Capital. A capital designed and built to be a showpiece for the Nation and which should remain a show piece for the country.

That the agreement of what is a priority or significant development for the ACT will be dependent on voting numbers in the LA, and these numbers will be in alignment with the party in power.

That while input will be required by key agencies such as the NCA, the Conservator for Flora and Fauna and the Heritage Council etc many of these agencies are part of Ministers Corbell's portfolio or have already been reduced in power (such as NCA) to a token voice and therefore token input. This also represents a clear conflict of interest.

Significant developments are dependent on agreements with 'proponents' and 'private' land owners which means LA will not know where a development is located until a proponent and a land owner make an agreement. This suggests that we will be no better off than we are with the current Uriarra Solar situation, that is, we will have no recall on location.

This legislation is a major concern given the new 'Wind Power' and third round of 'Solar Utilities' agenda that Minister Corbell is pursuing, if this Act is passed there will be no opportunity to object to a proposals location, which could be as close as 50 metres from a suburban boundary.

Developments will be fast tracked which I assume will be 'merit' assessment or perhaps an even faster track about to be introduced into the ACTPLA assessment protocol.

That the current assessment process by ACTPLA leaves minimal opportunity for input because of the limited time frames provided to the general public and the requirement of substantiated evidence in order for serious consideration. In addition if the development has already received the 'green light' by LA it is guaranteed to be successful.

That all of these development decisions will have life time impact on the ACT and its residents. These developments are potentially sending our money and wealth outside of the ACT to foreign companies, and changing the face of our Nations Capital. These decisions should not be made in haste.

I would appreciate your consideration for an invitation to the open forum on Thursday 24 April 2014

Sincerely
Helen Ollerenshaw
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ABN: 34937105799

Building resilient lives and resilient teams, creating focus, purpose, direction and success; increasing productivity and profits. CO-Author 'Overcoming the Good Little Girl Syndrome: Assertiveness and Empowerment Strategies for Women'; The Gratitude Book Project.

Author: The Key to Your Personal Success; Resilient Teams; Solution Matrix;