
From: keith ian minto
Sent: Thursday, 30 September 2010 4:30 PM
To: Committees
Subject: Draft Variation Territory Plan No. 298

Attn, Mrs Nicola Kosseck
Committee secretary, SCPPTMS
Legislative assembly ACT

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to this development plan.

My major concern is the fire hazard that this development presents.

1. I have lived in HOLT for 40 yrs now and have seen a few fires come in from the west/north west. I do not know if the committee knows but the original HOLT suburb design had the golf course as a buffer to the residential area if bush fires did encroach from the prevailing W/NW direction. This was ignored when the golf course development was discussed (I presented my case in person at that hearing). As a result, when the 2003 fires occurred, the golf course estate was the first area to be evacuated !, surprise, surprise.....

2. It looks to me that the 50metre barrier is the 'bush fire barrier'. A reminder that fires are accompanied by strong winds, not all fires are solely ground spread. As an example, shortly before the terrible 2003 fire that climaxed on the weekend, I was walking my dog on Drake Brockman Dr, at the Trickett St area one evening when smoldering leaves gently fell from the sky, indicating worse to come.

3. So these residential 'troops' are definitely in the front line of a fire attack, other fires that have swept through Anderson's property (now grape vines) were started by campers in the Murrumbidgee river area.

So, perhaps my experience living here will inform the committee of the very real fire danger that can sweep in unexpectedly, and Development proposal No. 298, is right in harm's way.

Thank you again,

Keith Ian Minto

HOLT