

9 November 2006

1988 Wooyung DA may be declared null and void

The Wooyung Action Group, the Australian Greens and locals have promised to take whatever action necessary - including legal action - to void the 1988 development authority (DA) - and stop JMS Capital from building the 'eco-bligh' south of Pottsville.

Greens Upperhouse candidate John Kaye and Tweed Shire Greens candidate Tom Tabart, met with more than 60 WAG members and drew up battle plans to stop JMS Capital from polluting the Byron and Tweed Shire water table with sulphuric acid and destroying native flora and fauna.

"The DA won't to go unchallenged," said biophysicist and WAG spokesperson Ms Chris Cherry.

John Kaye and Tom Tabart said that current legislation allows for the retraction of development approvals obtained in illegal circumstances and that they would investigate.

The Wooyung 'Ocean Lakes' project and the payments made to Tweed Shire Councillor Tom Hogan and other officials at the time of obtaining the DA were the subject of an entire chapter in the 1990 ICAC Report into NSW North Coast Land Development.

The ICAC Report found there was considerable evidence for the prosecution of Peter Muller, the developer who secured the current DA in 1988.

Tweed Shire Councillor Tom Hogan was prosecuted and gaoled for his part in the corrupt dealings.

"This DA approval is the product of these transactions," Ms Chris Cherry said.

Tweed MP Neville Newell contacted the Wooyung Action Group seeking further information about the original DA and the subsequent controversial Land and Environment Court decision.

Mr Newell will present the information to the State Department of Planning legal team and investigate the possibility of overturning the Land and Environment Court decision.

For more information visit www.wooyungdefenders.com

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