From:
To: NSW Productivity Feedback

Subject: We need the Independent Planning Commission for objective and balanced planning decisions

Date: Thursday, 14 November 2019 2:56:43 PM

Dear Productivity Commissioner,

Who are you being productive towards if the NSW Independent Planning Commission is scrapped?

What is the rationale behind scrapping an unbiased institution that assesses the major works of societal impact?

We've seen what happens when only interests of private businesses are considered. For the latest look no further than the impact on the lives of thousands caused by building certificates issued by private certifiers for buildings that were found to be defective to the point of being unliveable (in many more than one occasion).

One can only assume this eventuates in an environment of no checks and balances on the incentives to certifiers whose livelihood and bottom line depends on the constant and rapid growth of the very industry whose quality they are arbitrating over. As a consequence, life savings were spent, livelihoods were destroyed by the buying of property that was damaged or soon after found to be unliveable. This private greed was facilitated by partisan government hungry for tax dollars and wooed by a mantra of job creation above all other interests.

This is a similar fate we're eventually facing by allowing excessive influence of the mining and developer lobbies by abolishing the IPC and returning approval powers solely to the Planning Minister and Planning Department.

The corruption and societal risk is just too high. Blood of communities will be in your hands.

I appeal to your conscience in making the right decision that benefits not a small group of influential businessmen, organisations with money, and self-perpetuating partisan government nut jobs – but one that considers society as a whole and its long-term livelihood.

Yours sincerely,