

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [NSW Productivity Feedback](#)  
**Subject:** Independent Planning commission  
**Date:** Thursday, 14 November 2019 2:33:45 PM

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Dear Peter Achterstraat,

I note with interest that the terms of reference for the NSW Government's review of the Independent Planning Commission is to include "whether it is in the public interest to maintain an Independent Planning Commission (IPC) and whether changes to the thresholds for referring matters to the IPC should be considered.

I cant believe that the NSW Government is even undertaking this review. Of course, NSW must have an IPC, the level of planning corruption within NSW Government ranks over past years, has proven this categorically.

Surely we have not already forgotten the issues surrounding Sydney Harbour Foreshores leases, the mining licences of Eddie O'Beid, and the Murray Darling debacle, and that's just to name some of the most recent planning outrages.

As for changing thresholds for referring matters to the IPC – this is also just code for watering down of IPC powers, and rendering it useless. Are environmental concerns being thrown out again? who will police this if not the IPC?

i believe that this review of the IPC should also be considered in conjunction with other changes that the NSW Governments is undertaking quietly and often in secret, that takes individuals and groups right to protest against planning injustices away, and is also a direct attack on our democratic rights.

Returning approval powers solely to the Planning Minister, or changing thresholds for referring matters to the IPC is, in my view, cynical and a recipe for disaster.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]