From:
To: NSW Productivity Feedback

Subject: Independent Planning Commission a key piece of the NSW planning system.

Date: Thursday, 14 November 2019 4:14:07 PM

Dear Productivity Commissioner,

Ryde Community Alliance, supports the retention of NSW Independent Planning Commission to assess major projects in NSW. Established by the NSW Liberal Government, the IPC fulfils a critical role in the assessment of major development projects.

The IPC is publicly perceived to be independent of influence from individuals, groups, government, lobbyists, developers and industry. This is as intended by the Government and is an important element in the public acceptance of the Commission.

The Environmental Planning and Assessment Act, 1979, as amended by the NSW Government, after consultation with all stakeholders, which resulted in many thousands of submissions being received by the Government. The review of the IPC must acknowledge that there was very strong support for retaining the objects of the Act, and for including the facilitation of ecologically sustainable development in the objects for the future. These objects should not be disregarded by the review.

The mining and developer lobbies are not representative of the Australian people. Their principal focus is on maximising commercial gain from utilising our natural resources so that profits are returned to their large investors. The review should weigh the views of this group against the views of the other stakeholders, most of whom see the value of the IPC.

The IPC is preferred as an assessment body, over the Minister or departments, to achieve the objects of the Act and successfully balance the economic, social and environmental issues. These parties can also make submissions to the IPC within the framework of the EP&A Act.

Yours sincerely,