



Submission to the Productivity Commissioner's Review of the Independent Planning Commission

1. The Independent Planning Commission should remain as it is and not become subject to Ministerial control other than in relation to its procedure.
2. It is in the public interest to maintain an Independent Planning Commission to prevent corruption of politicians and public servants.
3. The Independent Planning Commission's operations and the mechanisms by which State significant development is assessed and determined should remain in place.
4. The Commissioners' skills, expertise and qualifications need to be proven and transparent.
5. The mechanisms to identify and resolve any conflicts of interest by commissioners need to be transparent and adhered to. Any conflict of interest should be grounds to dismiss a commissioner.
6. The Independent Planning Commission should not rely solely on the assessment reports prepared by the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment. It should also take into account all assessments by Government agencies, and submissions from experts and the community.
7. The Independent Planning Commission should review the processes used in consultations with the Traditional Custodians/Owners of the land to be impacted before a project is allowed to proceed. Commissioners also need to consult directly with Elders who have responsibilities for the area rather than rely on consultations carried out by proponents and government agencies.
8. The Independent Planning Commission's Secretariat should be employed directly by the Independent Planning Commission.
9. The development assessment processes used by the IPC and other planning authorities should include a careful assessment of the short and long term cumulative impacts on water resources, agriculture, communities, human health and biodiversity.

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for Sydney Knitting Nannas & Friends

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15 November 2019