Vincentia, NSW 2540

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Coastal Reforms Team Office of Environment and Heritage PO Box A290 Sydney South NSW 1232

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Dear Team members

I write with regard to the Proposed NSW Coastal Management Reforms, as set out in the proposed Coastal Management Act.

My property is in a coastal area, with the land mass in our developed waterfront region being predominantly sand. There is a perception that our property could prove vulnerable to sea level rise, secondary to global warming.

The proposed act has some very objectionable elements, most particularly the shift to allow councils to direct that property owners must abandon their property as part of a 'managed retreat', and also that in the event of environmental destruction of the property the owner will be forced to meet demolition and removal costs. This is particularly unfair as the potential to mitigate environmental threats is greatly restricted by regulation, and at another level is in the hands of government, rather than the owner. To this point in time governments have been hopelessly indolent in acting to curb the impact of warming. By their inaction Federal and state governments are culpable for placing established coastal properties at risk.

Further to that, at my property, and all the others associated with the coast or waterways in NSW, the owners are paying land tax, presumably on the basis the land is valuable. If we are to pay tax on the land surely it is incumbent on governments to use the revenue to help protect the asset?

Our entire community in Vincentia would be devastated should a 'managed retreat' of 1.5km be applied to our region.

I object to the reforms proposed in the Act initially on the basis outlined above, but also because there has been almost no consultation regarding the proposals. The proposals a complex, to such a degree that affected communities would need considerably more time to come to terms with their implications.

There has not been adequate information provided to allow affected parties full appraisal of all the relevant factors that may impact on them.

I would like to ask that you consider deferral of these proposals pending complete information and proper consultations.

With regard,
Dr Dominic Frawley