

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Thursday, 25 February 2016 1:00 PM  
**To:** OEH PD Coastal Reforms Mailbox  
**Subject:** 59\_Gill\_250216: Coastal Protection Laws: NSW Needs them

**Categories:** Blue Category

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft framework for coastal management currently on exhibition.

The government's efforts to develop new coastal protection laws for strategic planning and management of the coast in accordance with the principles of ecologically sustainable development and for the long-term public interest are important.

However I am concerned that the proposed new changes may lead to diluted and ineffective protection for sensitive coastal environments because:

- Dividing the coastal zone into four distinct areas will result in weaker protections for areas identified for development
- Removing important oversight by the Department of Planning and Environment will effectively mean no mechanism for considering wider impacts
- Providing significant discretion for both councils and the Minister will mean that key requirements will not be mandatory or enforceable

Please ensure that:

- The proposed new Coastal Management Areas are further refined to provide clear and consistent protection for both coastal environmental values and public interest values
- There are clearer requirements and guidance with regards to climate change adaptation and mitigation
- Key elements of the coastal management package, including key requirements under the Coastal Manual, are both mandatory and enforceable.
- The functions and membership of the NSW Coastal Council are expanded to provide advice on an integrated approach to coastal management, including policy, strategic functions in relation to the new Act, and community engagement.
- Other key elements of the reform package, including coastal zone mapping and the draft text of the proposed new State Environmental Planning Policy are publicly exhibited prior to the Bill being finalised.

Yours sincerely,  
Liz Gill  
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