



Environment - Growth - Community

Attachment Folder

Ordinary Meeting

22 October, 2013

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2013	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
January		1	2	3 Farmers Market Marine Rescue	4 Marine Rescue	5	6
	7	8	9	10 Farmers Market Marine Rescue	11 Marine Rescue	12	13
	14	15	16	17 Farmers Market Marine Rescue	18 Animal Welfare Marine Rescue	19	20
	21	22 PCYC Kids Day Out Van Andrew 0417 862 748	23	24 Farmers Market	25	26	27
ω	28	29	30	31 Farmers Market			
February					1 Zumba Demonstration Vicki Swift 0432 677 760	2	3
	4	5	6	7 Farmers Market	8 Zumba Demonstration Vicki Swift 0432 677 760	9	10
	11 Amanda Poulton Nowra Physi Registration 0417 441 799 amanda@eventsbyamanda.c om.au	12	13 Sth Coast Medical Service Ab Corp Out of Home Care Promotion Iris McLeod 4428 8888 Shaven.Lioness.Raffle	14 Farmers Market	15 Animal Welfare Wernick Craft Cottage Louise Giles louise60@bigpond.com Shaven Lioness Raffle	16 Shoalhaven Ex-Servos Cricket Club Pink Stumps Comm (Breast Cancer Awareness) Cindy Dibben 0418 414 546 cindy@essentials.com.au	17
	18	19	20	21	22	23	24

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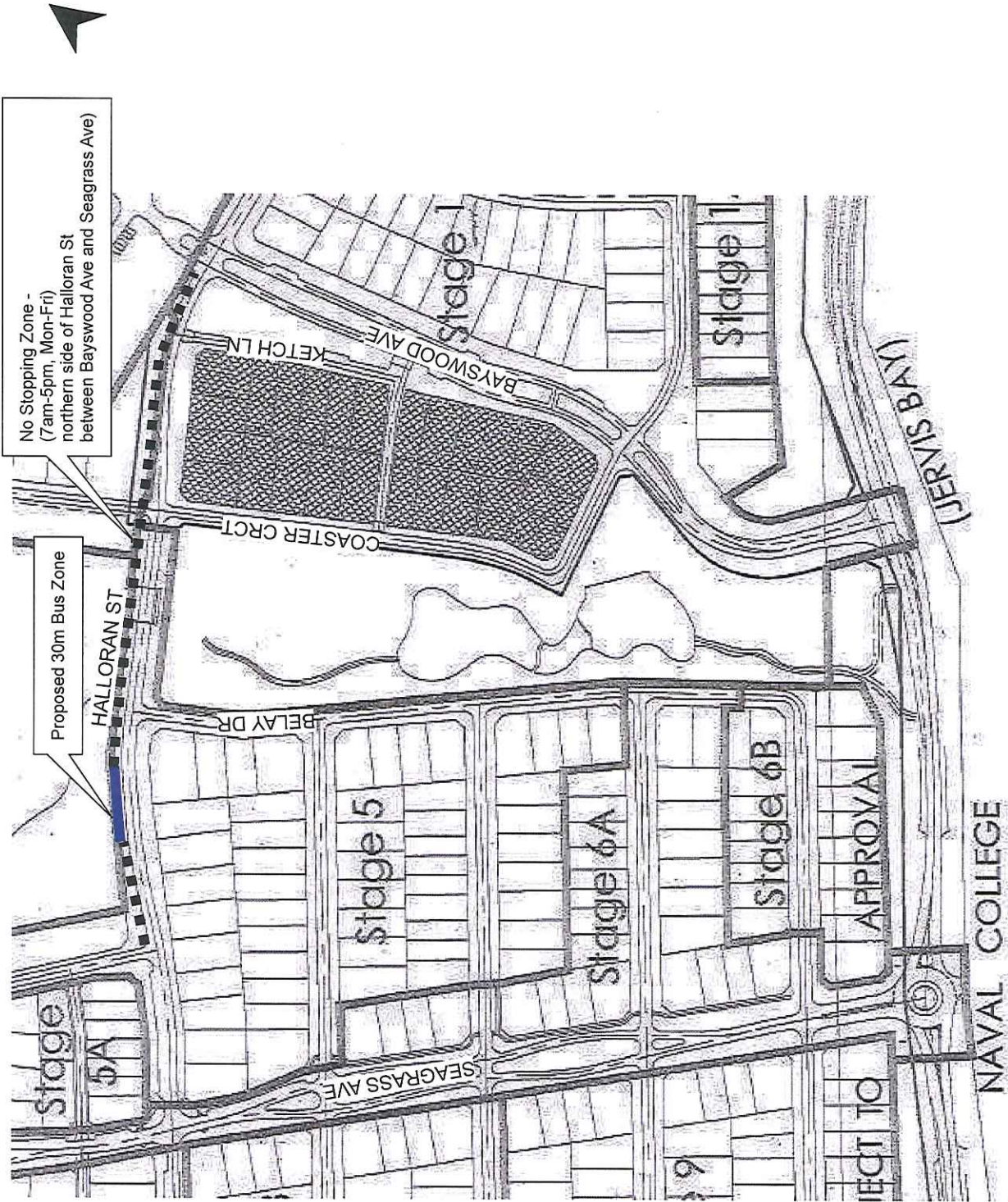
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	3	4	5	6 Farmers Market Marine Rescue Ron Hanson 4443 9748	7 8.30-2.00 NAB - Tracy Sheehy 44291000	8	9
	10	11 Ben Hamwell	12 Ben Hamwell	13 Stan Glennie (Busker - 0416 172 121) (9.00am-1.00pm) Farmers Market	14 Joanna Gash Office (2:30-3:30) Julia Guy 4423 1782 julia.guy@aph.gov.au	15 Nowra Spinners & Weavers World Knit in Public Day nowraspinners@gmail.com Kerry Rourke 0429 057575	16
O	17	18	19	20 Farmers Market Animal Welfare	21 Wemick Craft Cottages Barbara Jones 0437226384	22	23
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No Stopping Zone -
(7am-5pm, Mon-Fri)
northern side of Halloran St
between Bayswood Ave and Seagrass Ave)

Proposed 30m Bus Zone

TRAF 2013/49

Proposed No Stopping & Bus Zone
Bayswood Estate

Report to Council

Title: LGNSW Water Management Conference

<u>Date:</u>	8 -10 September 2013
<u>Venue:</u>	Crown Plaza Terrigal NSW
<u>Theme:</u>	Improving the Working Flow
<u>SCC Representatives:</u>	Lynne Kearney, Patricia White, Mark Kitchener
<u>Key Note Speakers:</u>	Tony Wong, Mark O'Donohue, Monica Barone

Conference Format:

Key-note presentations were delivered in the mornings before lunch and concurrent site visits were presented in the afternoon on Day 1. The site visits included the Mardi Mangrove Link, Water Sensitive City and the Water Directorate Forum. Concurrent streams and presentations were organized for the afternoon sessions on Day 2.

Site Visit Water Sensitive City - This site visit looked at Gosford's efforts to become a water sensitive city and implement innovative water sensitive urban design measures such as decentralized storm water harvesting and recycling and groundwater use. The visit looked at the Terrigal storm water harvesting and reuse scheme, an innovative project which supplies treated storm water for a variety of purposes including cooling towers, irrigation, toilet flushing and laundering – the east Gosford Storm water harvesting scheme irrigated one of council's largest sporting complexes. The Grahame Park Ground Water Scheme providing no potable water to the Central Coast Mariner's Stadium, and other nearby facilities but utilizes 35 000 kL of water each year for irrigation of council parks in close proximity. The Site Visit concluded with the innovative non potable supply in council's administration building including water supply from air conditioning condensate collection.

The LGNSW Water Management Conference was well organized and well prepared and provided participants with an academic format that was rigorous, stimulating and beneficial to all participants and the opportunities for networking were abundant.

Keynote Presentations:

Sustainable Urban Water Management and Water Sensitive Cities – Tony Wong

Improving the working flow will be a significant pathway for the future provision of secure water utilities for the countries urban areas. In the recent past city rainfall ran off to the ocean and none fell in catchment areas. There is a need to shift to a more complex system that

integrates various sources of water and operates through a combination of centralized and decentralized systems to deliver a wider range of water services to the community ecosystem.

It is predicted there will be an increase in the number of days of critical heat exceeding current thresholds. Future cities need to be more resilient, to be able to adapt, withstand and recover from climatic extremes. Trees and water corridors have a significant cooling measure for cities. The provision of water and green infrastructure in the urban landscape has a significant cooling effect. There is a growing need to integrate water sensitive precincts into urban design and construction. This also includes urban streams and water features to maintain and cool our cities. Urban water management is still uncharted territory for urban livability.

Livability for future cities incorporates comfort capacity systems supporting large populations. Livable cities must have urban water cycle management and traditional water and wastewater service provision. Cities that become water supply catchments have access to water through a variety of sources at a diversity of supply scales. Cities that provide ecosystem services are constructed so that the built environment functions to supplement and support the function of the natural environment.

There is growing evidence that supports the need to bring nature back into our cities to take flood waters out of our cities. Drainage and flood mitigation programs become a network of green and blue corridors for flood conveyance and fostering biodiversity in urban environments. Cities need to keep the soil moist for urban orchards and community gardens to become commonplace. Transform cities into water supply catchments and create corridors of flood conveyance which are active public spaces. Future cities need to further integrate their existing systems to include multiple drivers, multiple criteria and multiple scenarios to maintain resilience and livability.

Current trends in water recycling, storm water harvesting and augmentation of potable supplies – Mark Donohue

The last 7 years has seen an increase in the use of recycled water around the country. Acceptance, expansion and adoption of water reuse schemes have followed government subsidization and investment in research and development. Water recycling is only one component required to secure Australia's future water supply. Mixed messages about the future are influenced by climate change, bushfires, population growth, water consumption and energy pricing which are pulling the balance of water supply and demand in different directions.

Research and development help argue the value of water recycling to a range of industries. Reuse schemes are increasing in agriculture, environment, and industry but recycling for human consumption is different for all groups. Some are convinced and over the line, others are approaching the line and some haven't even started to accept the idea. Clearly there are significant challenges in overcoming the barriers to reuse. These challenges could be minimized with the training of council staff to provide knowledge, skills and education programs to

promote the use of recycled water. Demonstration sites could to be established to increase awareness of technologies and their effectiveness to engage community support for the use of recycled water as drinking water.

The value of recycled water as a sustainable resource for future demands is emphasized by private sector, government and research entities and the value of recycling is demonstrated and enhanced by streamlining regulations. A national knowledge training and education program for water recycling has been established with the objective of having reclaimed water seen as acceptable alternative water for augmenting drinking water supplies.

Government, community, industry and media need to be brought along together on the journey to acceptance of recycled water being used as drinking water.

Summary of Presentations:

Regional Water supply system concept – Liverpool Plains Shire Council Story – Rodney Batterham

The black soil Liverpool Plains are located 470 kilometres, five hours north-west of Sydney. The plains encompass 5000 square kilometres in total. There is an average rainfall of 650 mm per annum. The Liverpool Plains are situated at the begging of the catchment area. Consequently prolonged shortages of rainfall have a severe effect on the community. Mining is providing the largest catalyst to growth in the area.

The major constraint of water availability was a single source of catchment with no backup supply. Aquifers are dependent on short term stream flows and a favourable climate. Ground water levels are in long term decline.

In the recent drought the township of Willow Tree almost ran dry and Werris Creek was on level 4 restrictions for a prolonged period of time. The local dam has enough capacity to supply all three townships in the area but was only connected to Werris Creek.

Mining related growth had indirect impacts on the community. A development application was lodged to construct a miner's village requiring water and sewerage equivalent to 525 dwellings or 1500 rooms in Willow Tree. This effectively doubled the population of the township an increase of 50% in two years. In real terms 200 to 300 new employees.

There were high to extreme risks associated with short and long term water supply during dry periods. There were similar risks with the capacity of water treatment and storage security caused by reliance on a single water source. The Regional Water Supply Strategy to connect Willow Tree to the dam was value for money, a significant contribution to water security, was technically feasible and a low risk operation. It had no negative environmental or social impacts, fostered regional growth and prosperity and was an improved level of service to consumers.

Now that Willow Tree has two sources of water it will facilitate more growth, there is improved water quality, it has addressed water security issues and the reservoir capacity is expandable to other supplies if required. It also provides redundancy for system failures and extreme climate conditions.

Water Plan 2050 – An overview of Gosford and Wyong’s joint water supply and integrated resource planning – Garry Casement

The Central Coast water supply is provided by Gosford and Wyong Shire Councils and services a population of 320 000. The Central Coast is a growing region with limited water resources and already has 130 000 connected customers. Water is harvested from Mangrove Creek, Wyong River and Ourimbah Creek. There are three dams in the system, Mooney Mooney Dam, Mardi Dam and Mangrove Dam.

The community of the Central Coast had millennium drought restrictions imposed upon it for over 10 years. The stored water supply decreased to 12%. There was a total outdoor water ban and extensive drought management activities. The activities were aimed at reducing demands for water. The propagation of water efficient devices became apparent in the community. Efficient washing machines were purchased, an extensive education program was delivered to the community in relation to water efficiency and sporting fields, gardens, parks and reserves were not watered.

In addition to the above mentioned activities a desalination plant was constructed at Toukley, there has been a large scale retrofit of rain water tanks in the community and an indirect reuse of recycled water. Strategy consideration was given to environmental, social and economic community concerns about the uncertainties of climate change and drought recovery times, future user behavior, technological innovation and changing regulatory requirements. To date demands for water haven’t bounced back because of a more water aware community even though there have been a number of wet years.

The two councils conducted extensive consultation with the community and established a community liaison group. Through the group the councils engaged the community in drought management options and eventually placed on public exhibition a draft plan that had the objectives of adaptability, flexibility, community involvement, aid in drought recovery and was to provide a safe reliable affordable and secure water supply. The concept was a linked system that delivered an additional water supply to the catchment.

The initial water source options were surface water and a pipeline to the regional Hunter Valley Dam. Eventually, after much deliberation they decided on linking the Upper Wyong to Mangrove Creek dam, the Lower Mangrove Creek to Mangrove Creek, development of a new off stream storage and the Macdonald River to Mangrove Creek transfer system.

Mardi to Mangrove has gone from a 101 square kilometre catchment to have an addition 400 square kilometre catchment and has become an integrated network for water supply. This

system was constructed at a cost of \$120 million, involving 56 private properties and a pump station alongside the Wyong River. Extensive community liaison was provided and environmental impacts management has been critical. The project came in \$6 million under budget and 20 000 million litres of water has been transferred upstream. As an additional bonus is the construction of the first fish link in Australia. The system is not yet complete but will evolve over time as it has a flexible approach that can be progressively implemented as needs demand.

More information www.watersafe www.savewater.com.au

Observation Comment:

The Shoalhaven City Council needs to be congratulated for the work done with water management within the region. Other councils come to study some of the strategic projects that are in place in the Shoalhaven. The R.E.M.S Scheme (Recycled Effluent Management Scheme) at Callalla, and the Kangaroo Valley Sewerage Scheme are projects studied by other councils with the intention of utilizing these types of strategies in their own districts.

The Shoalhaven River has always provided the region with more than sufficient water. This is evidenced by the fact that the community rarely has water restrictions placed upon it and the restrictions are usually at the lowest category level. The restrictions are at times in response to the inordinate increase in population during the peak summer tourist season. Furthermore, Sydney Water siphons potable water from Lake Yarrunga at Bendeela pumping station to augment drinking water for Sydney. Before the water is pumped to Sydney it is used to make cheap, clean, off peak hydro-electricity for the benefits of the Shoalhaven population.

Water in the Shoalhaven is well managed by Shoalhaven Water and Shoal Water, a private/ local government partnership between Shoalhaven City Council and GDH. The Shoalhaven City Council is recognized by other councils around the state for the excellent work it is doing around water management issues. With Australia being one of the driest continents on earth it is important that councils investigate creative ways of utilizing water and improving supply. Harvesting storm water, constructing pipelines and implementing innovative water sensitive urban design measures are important concepts for consideration by many communities but might not be suitable for all regions.

With that being said, one could suggest that even though there is always more work to be done and Shoal Water can still be improved, maybe the Shoalhaven City Council should consider focusing and concentrating resources and strategy development on areas that are in more need of attention like bushfire response. While the Rural Fire Service is well resourced, bushfire prevention, bushfire education and awareness, bushfire evacuation procedures and liaison and communication strategies between other combat agencies during natural disasters could be further improved to become models for councils around the country to emulate.

The documented response to natural disasters by coordinated efforts from the Shoalhaven City Council and emergency services is truly remarkable. Strategies have been put in place by Shoal Water to relieve the long term effects of drought. Floods inundate the land, drain quickly and council crews mop up with maximum efficiency. Intense storms batter and erode the coastline and wind storms destroy infrastructure, housing and vegetation leaving council with the task of getting life back to normal. It is

reasonable to think that when compared to other regions, the Shoalhaven has been lucky with bushfires.

It is a commonly known fact that the Shoalhaven is located in the most prone bushfire area in the country, an area that stretches from Kiama in the north, through South Eastern Australia to Sale in Victoria. It is also well known that there is an ever increasing amount of fuel accumulating in the National Parks and State Forests that surround the Shoalhaven and for many years now, summer has been renamed as the 'bushfire season'. Recent years have seen increasing numbers of properties destroyed and lives lost. It is only a matter of time before one of these infernos comes headlong through one or more of the Shoalhaven Urban Areas. The question is when and will the Shoalhaven be sufficiently prepared?

One could argue that as a regional centre for the south coast, the Shoalhaven City should set the example and lead the way by initiating a taskforce to investigate national and international best practice and create an exemplary model of bushfire assessment, resistance, and recovery for other councils to follow. As a reactionary measure the Shoalhaven City Council should purchase an 'Elvis style' helicopter for deployment during bushfires and have leasing arrangements with other south coast councils for them to use this bushfire fighting apparatus as the need arises. Or, for the Southern Regions Council to purchase the helicopter and have it housed in a central location like H.M.A.S. Albatross.

Over the years Shoalhaven Water and Shoal Water have been visionary in the management of water issues for the Shoalhaven City Council. The excellent projects provided became models for other councils to imitate and copy and this excellence of leadership and management can be channeled into other aspects in and around the Shoalhaven City Council to further improve the quality of life and the safety of property for the residents in the community.

Councillors

Mark Kitchener

Ordinary Meeting - Tuesday 22 October 2013 - Item 30
Staff – Pecuniary Interest Forms Required

Name	Group
Neal Smith	Assets and Work
Cliff Harris	Assets and Works
David Hojem	Assets and Works
Geoff Young	Assets and Works
Paul Dorahy	Assets and Works
John Drummond	Assets and Works
Alex Love	Assets and Works
Martin Uptis	Assets and Works
Darrell Merange	Assets and Works
Kevin Sullivan	Assets and Works
Ben Stewart	Assets and Works
Peter Aney	Corporate and Community
Debra Jackson	Corporate and Community
John Lenehan	Corporate and Community
Andrew Perry	Corporate and Community
Lisa Ruyg	Corporate and Community
Alan Blackshaw	Corporate and Community
Jane Lewis	Corporate and Community
Susan Edwards	Corporate and Community
Claire Scott	Corporate and Community
Ros Ball	Corporate and Community
Paul French	Corporate and Community
Mark Kielly	Corporate and Community
Bob Mangan	Corporate and Community
Nancy Marriott	Corporate and Community
Melissa McCoy	Corporate and Community
Greg Roberts	Corporate and Community
Neville Gordon	General Managers Group
Greg Pullen	General Managers Group
Rob McLean	General Managers Group
Russ Pigg	General Managers Group
Marie Vellacott	General Managers Group
Barry Adams	Planning and Development

Name	Group
David Anderson	Planning and Development
David Anstiss	Planning and Development
Greg Atkinson	Planning and Development
Rodney Baker	Planning and Development
James Bonner	Planning and Development
John Britton	Planning and Development
Roy Choros	Planning and Development
Robert Christlo	Planning and Development
Wayne Clark	Planning and Development
Shaun Clay	Planning and Development
Emma Clunas	Planning and Development
Craig Crompton	Planning and Development
Alison Dalyell	Planning and Development
Malcolm Dillon	Planning and Development
Ian Dollery	Planning and Development
Elizabeth Downing	Planning and Development
Matthew Dunn	Planning and Development
Stephen Evans	Planning and Development
Tim Fletcher	Planning and Development
Andrew Gibbes	Planning and Development
Robert Goldspring	Planning and Development
Jason Haig	Planning and Development
Anna Hernell	Planning and Development
Suzanne Hislop	Planning and Development
Garon Irwin	Planning and Development
Michael Jarman	Planning and Development
Gareth Jenkins	Planning and Development
Peter Johnston	Planning and Development
Shane Keys	Planning and Development
Glendon Lee	Planning and Development
Andrew Lissenden	Planning and Development
Trent Little	Planning and Development
Aaron Lloyd	Planning and Development
Kelie Lowe	Planning and Development

Name	Group
Patrick McLoughlin	Planning and Development
Alison McVey	Planning and Development
Wayne Meier	Planning and Development
Richard Murphie	Planning and Development
Michael Musson	Planning and Development
David Nile	Planning and Development
Warwick Papworth	Planning and Development
Tony Pearman	Planning and Development
Shane Pickering	Planning and Development
John Price	Planning and Development
Cameron Rouse	Planning and Development
Robert Russell	Planning and Development
Matthew Shannon	Planning and Development
Michael Smith	Planning and Development
Edo Smits	Planning and Development
Ian Staples	Planning and Development
Trent Swan	Planning and Development
John Towey	Planning and Development
Christopher Vince	Planning and Development
Eleanor White	Planning and Development
Gordon Clark	Planning and Development
Elizabeth Dixon	Planning and Development
Marie-Louise Foley	Planning and Development
Anna Gillen	Planning and Development
Eric Hollinger	Planning and Development
Lauren Turner	Planning and Development
Jessica Rippon	Planning and Development
Brian Shearing	Shoalhaven Water
Kabindra Adhikary	Shoalhaven Water
David Banwell	Shoalhaven Water
Simon Groves	Shoalhaven Water
Tony Holmes	Shoalhaven Water
Robert Horner	Shoalhaven Water
Carmel Krogh	Shoalhaven Water

Name	Group
Ljupco Lazarevski	Shoalhaven Water
Andrew McVey	Shoalhaven Water

Councillors – Pecuniary Interest Forms Required

Clr Joanna Gash
Clr John Wells
Clr Jemma Tribe
Clr Clive Robertson
Clr Lynnette Kearney
Clr Patricia White
Clr Karen Anstiss
Clr Alan Baptist
Clr Amanda Findley
Clr Andrew Guile
Clr Greg Watson
Clr Mark Kitchener
Clr Jim McCrudden

Boards – Pecuniary Interests Form Required

Shoalhaven Sports Board:

David Goodman
Roger Walker
Andrew Johnstone
David Chapple
Elaine Caswell
Barry Horton
Ian Cockburn
Syd Weller
John Dyball
Malcolm Campbell

Shoalhaven Arts Board:

Christine Currey
Robbie Collins
Stephen Nall
Catherine Shields
Max Dingle
Deborah Ely
Robert Sweica
Denise Stevens
Merilynn Weiss

Shoalhaven Tourism Board:

Andrew Herring

Catherine Shields

Keith Greenwood

Ken Banks

Michelle Bishop

Melissa McManus

Lynn Locke

Kate Dezarnaulds



Brad Hazzard
Minister for Planning
and Infrastructure

Katrina Hodgkinson
Minister for Primary Industries

Chris Hartcher
Minister for Energy and
Resources

MEDIA RELEASE

Thursday 3 October 2013

NSW GOVERNMENT PROTECTS KEY FARMLAND AND HOMES

The NSW Government is continuing implementation of its landmark commitment to protect prime agricultural land and water resources while providing greater certainty for landholders and the resources industry.

Minister for Planning and Infrastructure Brad Hazzard, Minister for Resources and Energy Chris Hartcher and Minister for Primary Industries Katrina Hodgkinson said the changes delivered key elements of the NSW Government's Strategic Regional Land Use Policy while at the same time ensuring a viable and strong resources industry to secure the State's energy needs.

"Earlier this year the Premier announced tough new measures to further strengthen the regulation of the CSG industry in NSW, including introducing a two kilometre buffer for new CSG activities across existing residential zones, as well as lands identified for future residential growth," Mr Hazzard said.

"Today we are implementing these initiatives and in doing so outlining greater protection for more than five million hectares of residential and farming land across the State.

"This is the first time in the State's history there has been such extensive mapping and protection for our homes and farms."

"Under Labor, coal seam gas (CSG) exploration licences were granted and renewed with no concern for potential agricultural or water impacts, and with no concern for the land's use.

"We have put in place the toughest CSG controls in Australia.

"Communities will now have peace of mind with the two kilometre exclusion zone for new CSG activity around residential areas," Mr Hazzard said.

The changes announced today cover four key commitments:

CSG exclusion zones

- CSG exclusion zones in force over an estimated 95 per cent of dwellings covered by current petroleum licenses.
- The Government is now exhibiting proposals to expand CSG exclusion zones ("stage-two exclusion zones") around:
 - Seven rural residential areas that met specific village criteria
 - Future growth areas in 56 council areas across NSW.

Statewide mapping: Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land

- 2.8 million hectares of the State's most valuable farming land – known as Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land (BSAL) – will now be protected through the Gateway process which ensures the impacts of resource development on agriculture and water are considered up front in the assessment process. BSAL has been identified across the state including in the Central West; Mid and Far North Coast, Southern Highlands, Western, South Coast and Illawarra.
- This includes the 1.74 million hectares of BSAL already mapped in the New England North West and Upper Hunter regions in September 2012.
- The NSW Government will now exhibit mapping which identifies more than one million additional hectares of BSAL.

Critical Industry Clusters

- When it announced these Critical Industry Clusters in September 2012, the NSW Government agreed that a regional scale review and verification of the initial critical industry cluster maps should be undertaken.
- Completed verification mapping has been placed on exhibition to ensure all relevant equine clusters or viticulture enterprises are captured.

Gateway panel and process

- Any State significant mining or CSG proposal on BSAL has to go through an additional level of scrutiny via the Gateway process.
- Six members have been appointed to the Gateway panel, which will provide an independent, scientific assessment of major resources projects on BSAL and in the Upper Hunter's Critical Industry Clusters.

The appointed panel members and their areas of expertise are:

- **Mr Terry Short (Chair)** – agricultural scientist
- **Professor Garry Willgoose** – groundwater expert
- **Mr George Gates** – groundwater expert
- **Dr Ian Lavering** – geologist
- **Mr Brett Whelan** – agricultural scientist
- **Mr Russell Frith** – mining engineer

Mr Short said he was honoured to have been asked to make such an important contribution to rural land-use planning.

“The establishment of the Gateway system is a tremendous step forward for rural NSW.

“It is a voice that rural NSW hasn't had to date in the planning process,” he said.

Ms Hodgkinson said the development of the Upper Hunter Critical Industry Clusters involved extensive consultation and that the maps now include 464 viticulture and 297 equine properties.

“When the NSW Government released its Aquifer Interference Policy last September, it ensured this State put in place the best groundwater protection framework of any jurisdiction in Australia,” Ms Hodgkinson said.

“Today’s announcement takes the NSW Government one step further towards balancing the responsible growth of the mining and resource industries with the needs of primary industries and communities.”

Mr Hazzard said the Government was pleased to put in place the first stage of CSG exclusion zones which covers an estimated 95 per cent of homes covered by current petroleum licenses.

“We always said that we would also examine the exclusion zones in future proposed residential areas – along with rural residential areas which could be regarded as villages – and are now seeking feedback on this,” he said.

“Importantly, however, the Government has also made it clear that, now we’ve defined these sensitive areas, we will fully support mining proposals which are in the right places and pass our rigorous and independent assessment system.”

Mr Hartcher welcomed implementation of the regulatory regime, saying it provides greater certainty for the resources sector as well as existing land uses and residents.

“We are delivering a regulatory regime which better balances competing land uses, allowing for the continued growth of our world class resources sector while protecting our agricultural land and water resources.

“The NSW Government recognises the need to develop our own domestic gas industry in acceptable locations and in compliance with world best practice regulations which will continue to support our important manufacturing industries and help maintain affordable gas for over 1.2 million households across the State,” Mr Hartcher said.

More information is available at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup

MEDIA: Minister Hazzard: Chi Tranter 0439 634 032
Minister Hodgkinson: Julian Luke 0427 561 592
Minister Hartcher: Caroline Hutcherson 0405 455 991

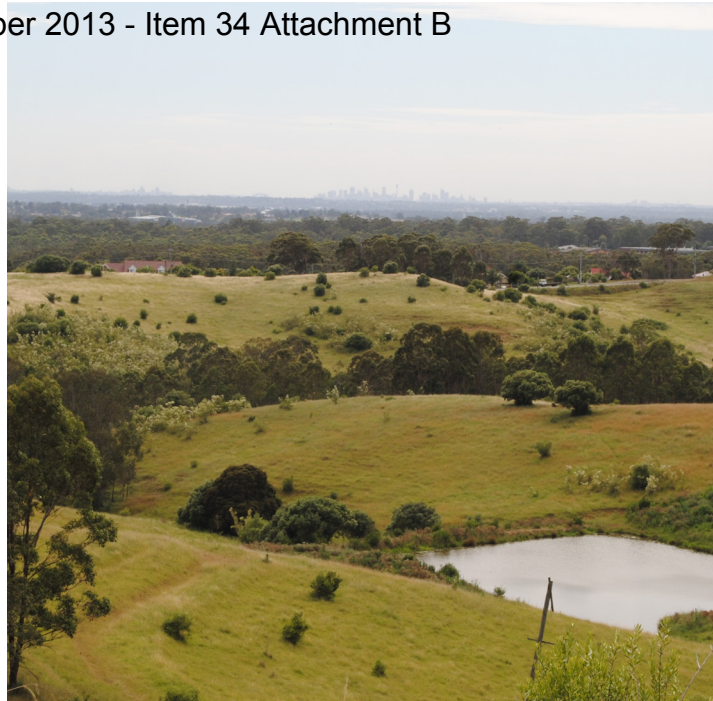


Getting the balance right: NSW land use

- ✓ Working with communities
- ✓ Protecting what's important
- ✓ Planning ahead



From the Ministers



Andrew Stoner

Deputy Premier
Minister for Trade and Investment and
Minister for Regional Infrastructure and Services



Brad Hazzard

Minister for Planning & Infrastructure

The NSW Government has implemented new measures to further strengthen the regulation of the Coal Seam Gas (CSG) industry in NSW. This will ensure our residential areas and country towns and villages are automatically excluded from new CSG activity. There are added safeguards in place for our high-quality farmland, while at the same time allowing for the sustainable development of a world-class resources industry.

For too long the NSW community has lacked confidence in how we balance the land use needs of our important farming and resource industries. The NSW Government has listened to the community's concerns and introduced the toughest CSG laws in Australia.

Under the new laws, there will be added safeguards in place for more than five million hectares of residential and farming land. This includes 2.3 million hectares of the State where CSG activity cannot occur, with new CSG wells banned within two kilometres of homes in our cities, towns and villages.

We have also mapped the valuable horse and wine industries in the Upper Hunter region where new CSG activity will be excluded, and for the first time in the State's history, have carried out extensive mapping to identify where our high-quality agricultural land is located so that we can properly manage it.

Importantly, through our new Gateway process the NSW Government has established an independent expert panel to ensure significant resource proposals involving high-quality agricultural land are subject to rigorous scrutiny and land and water resources are given up-front consideration in the assessment process.

This is a landmark moment for regional land-use planning in this State. It ensures we get the balance right so that agriculture, communities and resource development can co-exist.

✓ GETTING THE BALANCE RIGHT

We will ensure the right balance is struck between resources and agriculture in NSW. Our extensive State-wide mapping identifies where our high-quality agricultural land is and we have established an independent Gateway panel to ensure that significant resource proposals on this land are subject to rigorous scrutiny.

✓ PROTECTING WHAT'S IMPORTANT

NSW has the toughest Coal Seam Gas laws in Australia. We have listened to community concerns and implemented strict measures to exclude residential areas from CSG and introduce added precautions for high quality agricultural land. Importantly we have banned new wells from within 2km of homes and CSG exclusion zones are now in force across 2.3 million hectares of the State.

✓ PLANNING AHEAD

Planning for regional land use will now be upfront and transparent. Agriculture and mining both have an important place in NSW and it's essential that they co-exist. The NSW Government will continue to have an ongoing conversation with the community to ensure concerns are addressed.

Working with communities



The growth in mining and coal seam gas activity in some regions of the State is creating land use conflict. Communities are expressing concern about the effect on their farms, water and their homes.

The NSW Government is listening and has already:

- ✓ Appointed a Land and Water Commissioner
- ✓ Introduced an Aquifer Interference Policy
- ✓ Banned BTEX chemicals and evaporation ponds for CSG projects
- ✓ Introduced Strategic Regional Land Use Plans for the Upper Hunter and New England North West and is now exhibiting mapping for an additional one million hectares of strategic agricultural land
- ✓ Commissioned a review of CSG activities by the Chief Scientist & Engineer
- ✓ Introduced two new codes of practice for the CSG industry
- ✓ Axed the former Government's five-year royalty holiday for CSG producers

That was just the start.

Protecting our homes



2km Exclusion zones

What we need to balance



Conflict between resources and agriculture



Community questions



Getting the balance right



The NSW Government said it was going to do more and it is – delivering greater protection to more than five million hectares of residential and farming land.

CSG

New CSG activity excluded from within 2km of residential areas. CSG exclusion zones now cover 2.3 million hectares and plans are on exhibition to extend these zones to additional villages and future growth areas across the State.

Farmland

2.8 million hectares of strategic agricultural land mapped across the state – two years ahead of schedule.

Gateway scrutiny

Gateway process now in force with mining and CSG proposals on strategic agricultural land and its water undergoing rigorous, independent scrutiny.

Equine and viticulture

CSG exclusion zones will be applied to these critical industries, and the Gateway process will apply for mining proposals. Revised maps of Upper Hunter Critical Industry Clusters now on exhibition.

Importance of high-quality agricultural land



NSW's best land



Water



Fertility



Productivity

Importance of mining industry



Royalties deliver services and infrastructure



Hospitals



Schools



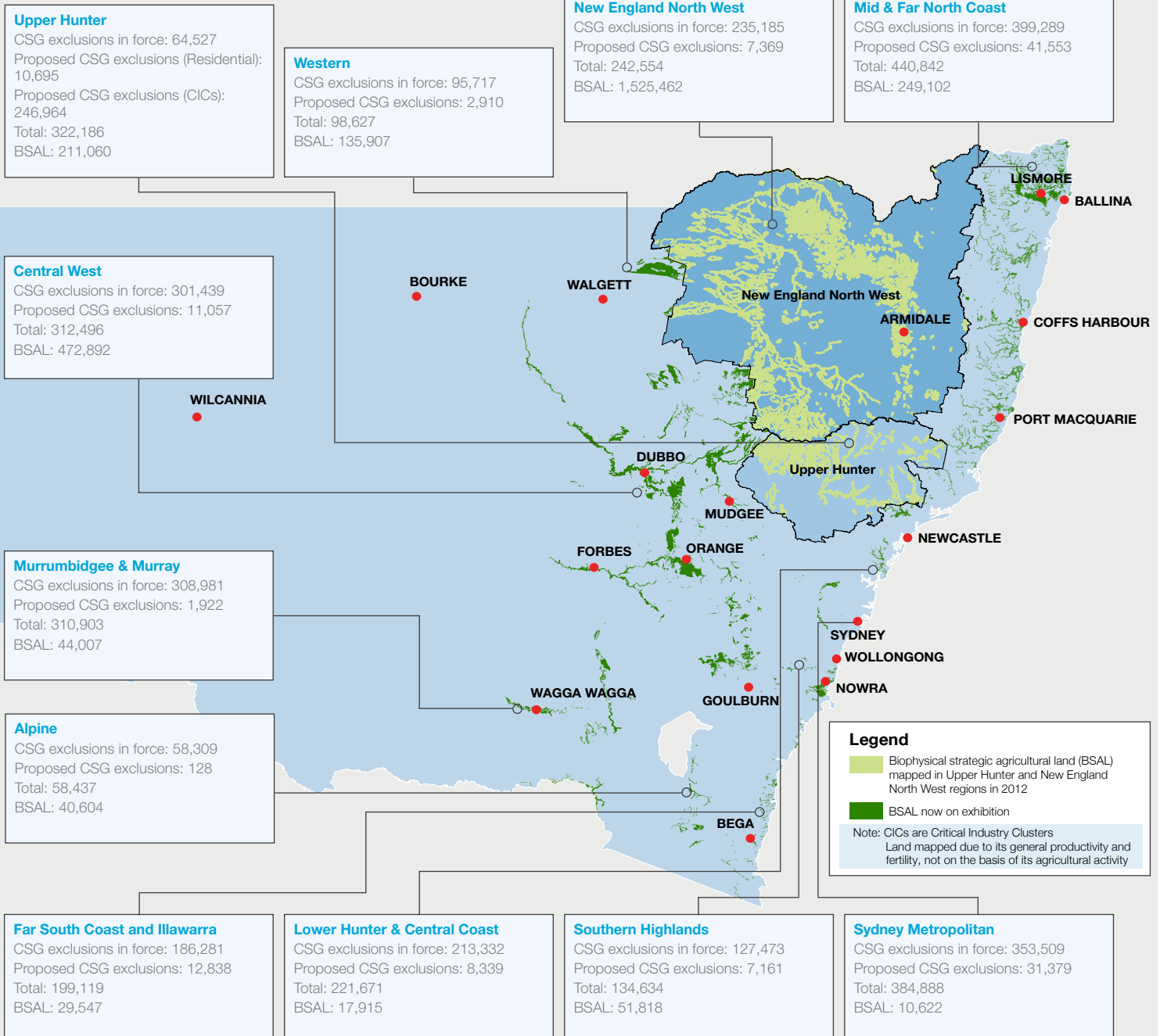
Roads

For the first time in the State's history the NSW Government has mapped 2.8 million hectares of land to identify and protect our strategic agricultural land.

Any significant resource proposals on this land will be scrutinised by our new independent Gateway Panel. The Panel members are experts in agriculture, water and resources and were selected by an interview panel including representatives from the NSW Minerals Council and the NSW Farmers Association.



NSW land use safeguards



Protecting what's important



NSW has the toughest CSG laws in Australia. We have listened to community concerns and implemented strict measures to protect residential areas and high-quality agricultural land from CSG activity.

- ✓ NSW has the toughest CSG laws in Australia
- ✓ New CSG wells excluded from within 2km of homes
- ✓ CSG exclusion zones now in force on 2.3 million hectares across the State
- ✓ Proposals on exhibition to further extend exclusion zones
- ✓ BTEX chemicals and evaporation ponds for CSG projects banned
- ✓ 2.8 million hectares of high quality agricultural land mapped – two years ahead of schedule
- ✓ Independent Gateway Panel established to ensure rigorous independent scrutiny

- ✓ Critical industry clusters in the Upper Hunter verified and revised maps now on exhibition
- ✓ Greater protection introduced for more than five million hectares of residential and farming land
- ✓ Strategic and transparent regional land use planning approach adopted
- ✓ Land and Water Commissioner appointed to provide independent community advice on exploration and land access issues
- ✓ Aquifer Interference Policy introduced to protect our valuable groundwater resources
- ✓ Independent review of CSG activities commenced by the NSW Chief Scientist and Engineer
- ✓ The former Government's five-year royalty holiday for CSG producers removed
- ✓ Open conversations with the community to continue

The new system



Independent
scrutiny

Planning ahead



Agriculture and the resources industry are critical to the future of NSW and the Government is getting the balance right.

We want an ongoing conversation with the community, and invite feedback on these additional proposals.

- ✓ Mapping of an additional one million hectares of our most valuable farming land (biophysical strategic agricultural land)
- ✓ Extending CSG exclusion zones to future residential growth areas in 56 council areas across NSW
- ✓ Extending CSG exclusion zones to additional rural village areas
- ✓ Revised maps showing the location of our wine and horse critical industries in the Upper Hunter region.

The NSW Government is safeguarding our communities, our important agriculture and resources industries, and our future prosperity.



Have your say

To view the proposals on exhibition and provide a submission visit:

www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup

Further information, including exhibition documents can be found on the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's website www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup or call 1300 305 695 or email srlup@planning.nsw.gov.au

Getting the balance right: NSW land use

- ✓ Working with communities
- ✓ Protecting what's important
- ✓ Planning ahead

Find out more

www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup

Twitter: @NSWPlanning

Facebook: /NSWPlanning

Phone: 1300 305 695



Strategic Regional Land Use Policy



October 2013

Frequently Asked Questions Feedback sought on mapping of additional coal seam gas exclusion zones

WHY IS THE GOVERNMENT INTRODUCING COAL SEAM GAS EXCLUSION ZONES?

- The NSW Government is delivering on its commitment to make residential areas 'off limits' to coal seam gas (CSG) activity.
- Stage-one exclusion zones are now in force, prohibiting CSG activity in and within 2km of existing residential zones across the State and the North West and South West Growth Centres of Sydney (see FAQ – Coal seam gas exclusion zones now in force).
- The Government is now exhibiting proposals to expand CSG exclusion zones (known as the stage-two exclusion zones).

WHAT IS ON EXHIBITION?

- The NSW Government is seeking feedback on maps which show how CSG exclusion zones would apply to additional village areas and future residential growth areas across the State.
- The NSW Government is also exhibiting revised maps for the Critical Industry Clusters in the Upper Hunter region. It is proposed that CSG exclusion zones be applied to the areas in these revised maps.
- These stage-two CSG exclusion zones will extend protection to these communities.
- These proposals are being exhibited as draft amendments to the *State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007* (Mining SEPP).
- These documents can be found on the Department of Planning & Infrastructure's website at: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup
- Feedback is invited up to **8 November 2013**.

WHY ARE ADDITIONAL VILLAGE AREAS PROPOSED TO BE PART OF THE EXCLUSION ZONES?

- The Department of Planning & Infrastructure (DP&I) identified that there were places which could be considered villages, but because of their zoning did not qualify for CSG exclusion.

Strategic Regional Land Use Policy



- The DP&I invited Councils to nominate rural residential areas that met defined 'village' criteria for inclusion in the CSG exclusion zones.
- The criteria (developed by DP&I, in consultation with the Department of Trade and Investment, Regional Infrastructure and Services and Local Government NSW) are:
 - the area must contain a mix of land uses
 - the zone must apply to a settlement that is long established and has some historic association with the district, region and/or rural hinterland
 - the area must contain a mix of lot sizes, including an average lot size of up to 4,000 square metres.
- The DP&I Local Environmental Plan Review Panel conducted a review of council nominated areas against the criteria. This panel includes representatives from Local Government and DP&I.
- Seven villages were found to have met these criteria:
 - part of Goonengerry in Byron Local Government Area
 - parts of Broke and Bulga, and all of Camberwell and Jerrys Plains in Singleton Local Government Area
 - all of Modanville in Lismore Local Government Area
 - all of Sutton Forrest in Wingecarribee Local Government Area.
- An additional fifty-two per cent of council nominated areas are completely within the 2km buffer of other residential zones and a further twenty-two per cent of the nominated areas are partially within the 2km buffer of other residential zones.

WHAT DOES THE NEW PUBLIC EXHIBITION COVER?

- The CSG exclusion zones will prohibit both coal seam gas exploration and development in and within 2km of mapped future residential growth areas identified in 56 local government areas across the State (see full list of local government areas online at: www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup).
- To qualify as a future residential area these locations have to be identified in planning instruments or Government endorsed planning strategies.
- The DP&I consulted with Councils to ensure the maps reflected the future growth areas. Councils and other stakeholders can further review and comment on these areas during the exhibition.

Strategic Regional Land Use Policy



- The CSG exclusion zones will also prohibit CSG exploration and development within the critical industry clusters in the Upper Hunter region (see FAQ – Critical Industry Clusters Exhibition). Feedback is being sought on the draft maps for these areas.

WHAT PROJECTS ARE AFFECTED BY THESE CSG EXCLUSIONS?

- All new coal seam gas activities are prohibited in the CSG exclusion zones.
- Pipelines associated with CSG development will also be prohibited within the exclusion zones, but are permitted within the two kilometre buffer zone, subject to development approval.

WHAT IS HAPPENING WITH THE CRITICAL INDUSTRY CLUSTERS IN THE UPPER HUNTER REGION?

- Critical Industry Clusters (CICs) are significant agricultural industries potentially affected by CSG or mining development.
- Two CICs – the equine and viticulture critical industries – were identified and mapped in the 2012 *Strategic Regional Land Use Plan – Upper Hunter*.
- These areas were mapped at a broad regional scale, and required a follow-up regional verification process.
- The Department of Primary Industries has now concluded this regional verification process and revised maps showing the clusters are now on exhibition at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup
- For further information see the FAQ – Critical Industry Clusters Upper Hunter Exhibition.

EXHIBITION DETAILS

- The exhibition documents can be found on the Department of Planning and Infrastructure's website at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup and will be on exhibition **until 8 November 2013**.

SUBMITTING COMMENTS

- Comments can be made during the exhibition period up to **8 November 2013**:
 - online at www.planning.nsw.gov.au/proposals
 - by email to srlup@planning.nsw.gov.au
 - by mail to Director Assessment Policy, Systems & Stakeholder Engagement, Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39, SYDNEY NSW 2001.
- Comments will be made publicly available and will be published online at:

Strategic Regional Land Use Policy



www.planning.nsw.gov.au/proposals

- Names and addresses will be withheld if requested. Please ensure your personal details are not included if you do not want to be identified.

FURTHER INFORMATION

- To find out more about the Strategic Regional Land Use Policy visit:

Department of Planning & Infrastructure website:

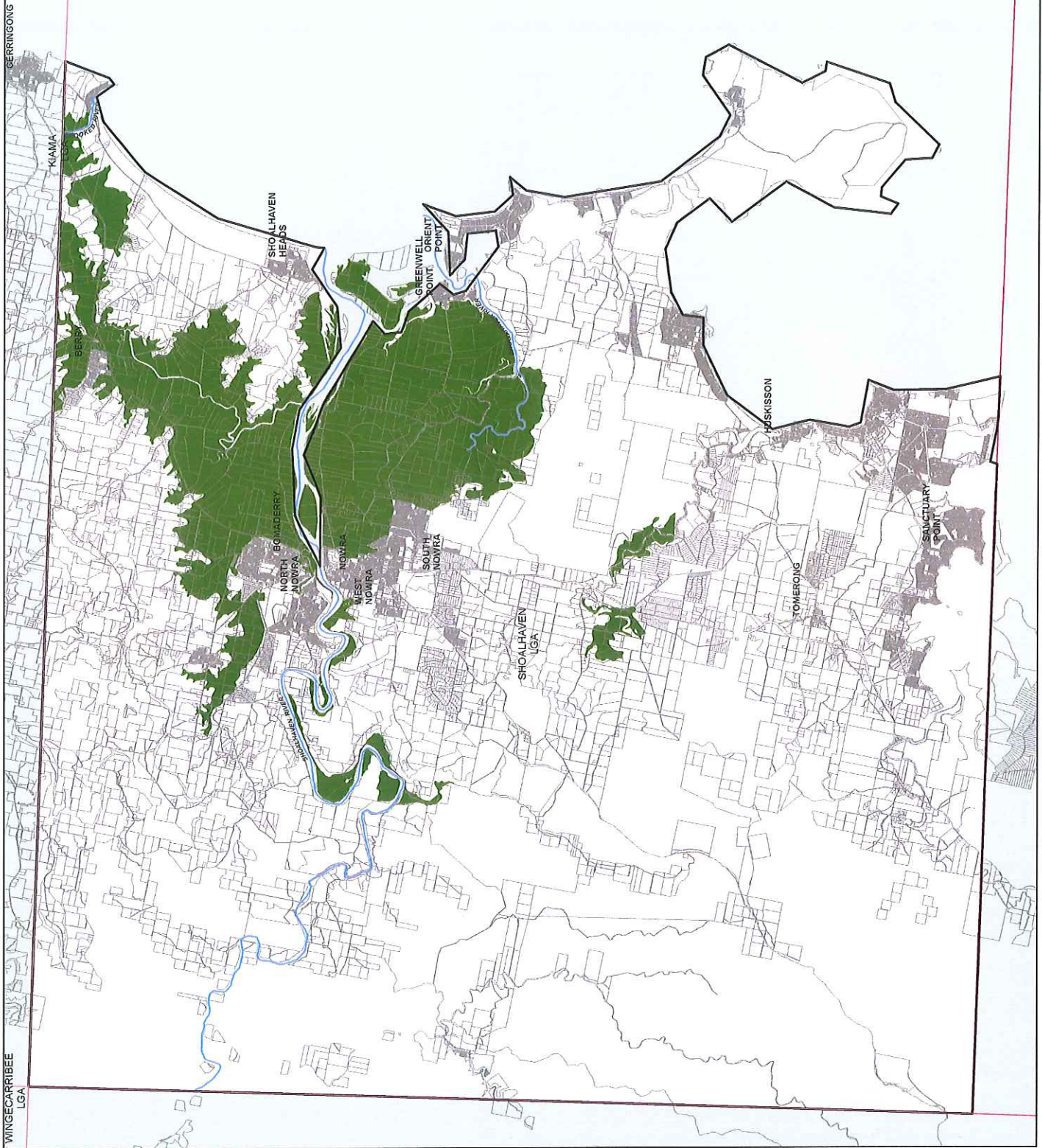
www.planning.nsw.gov.au/srlup

Coal Seam Gas website:

www.csg.nsw.gov.au

NSW Government Strategic Regional Land Use website:

www.nsw.gov.au/strategicregionallanduse



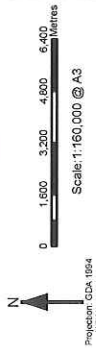
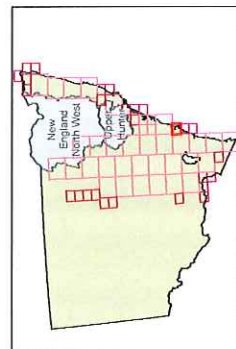
Planning & Infrastructure

State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

Strategic Agricultural Land Map - Sheet STA_042

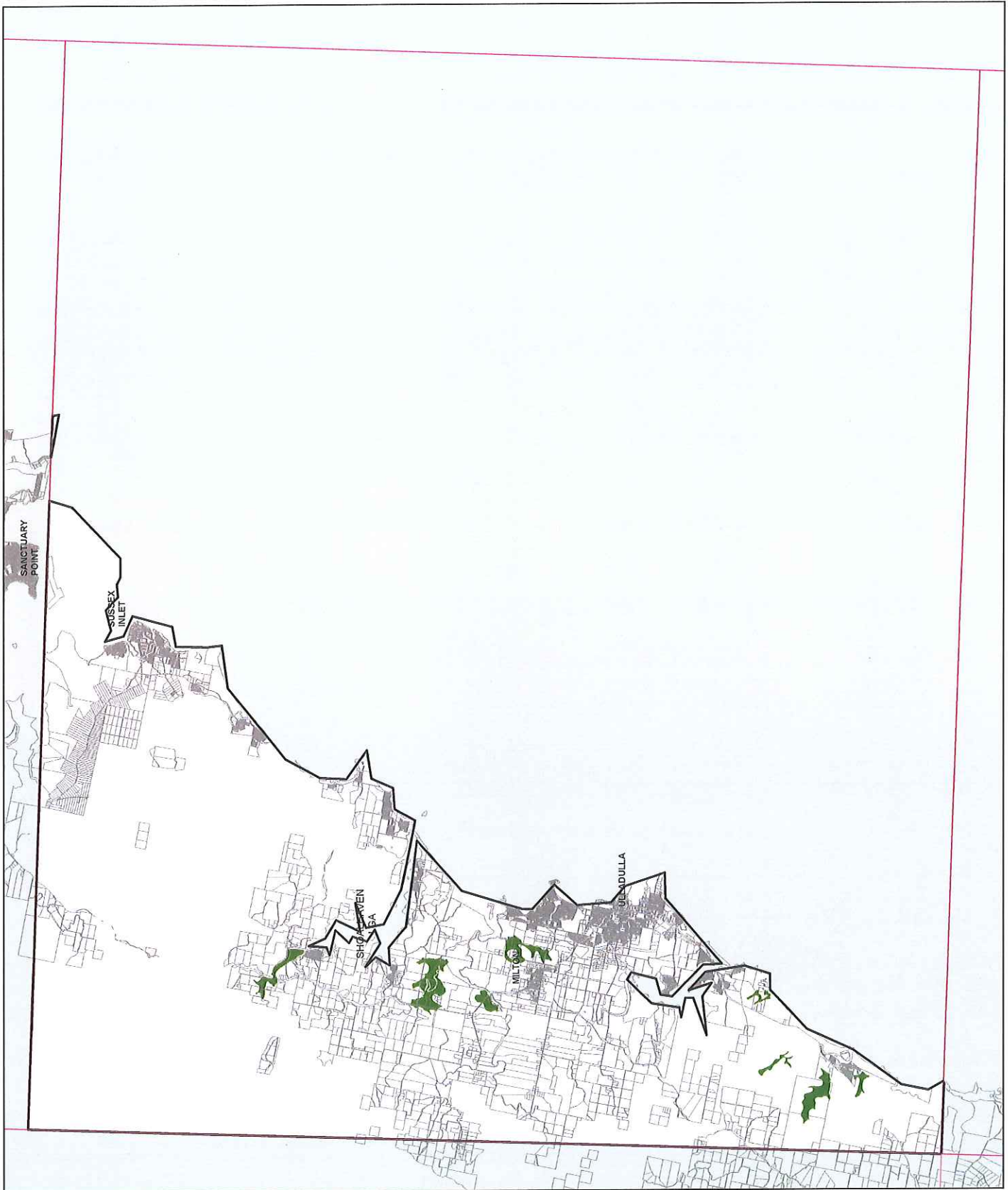
Legend
 Biophysical Strategic-Agricultural Land

Cadastre
 Cadastre 10/09/2013 © Land and Property Information (LPI)



Project: EPA 1604 NSW LandInfo

Map identification number: SEPP_MPEL_STA_042_20130910

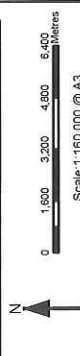


State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

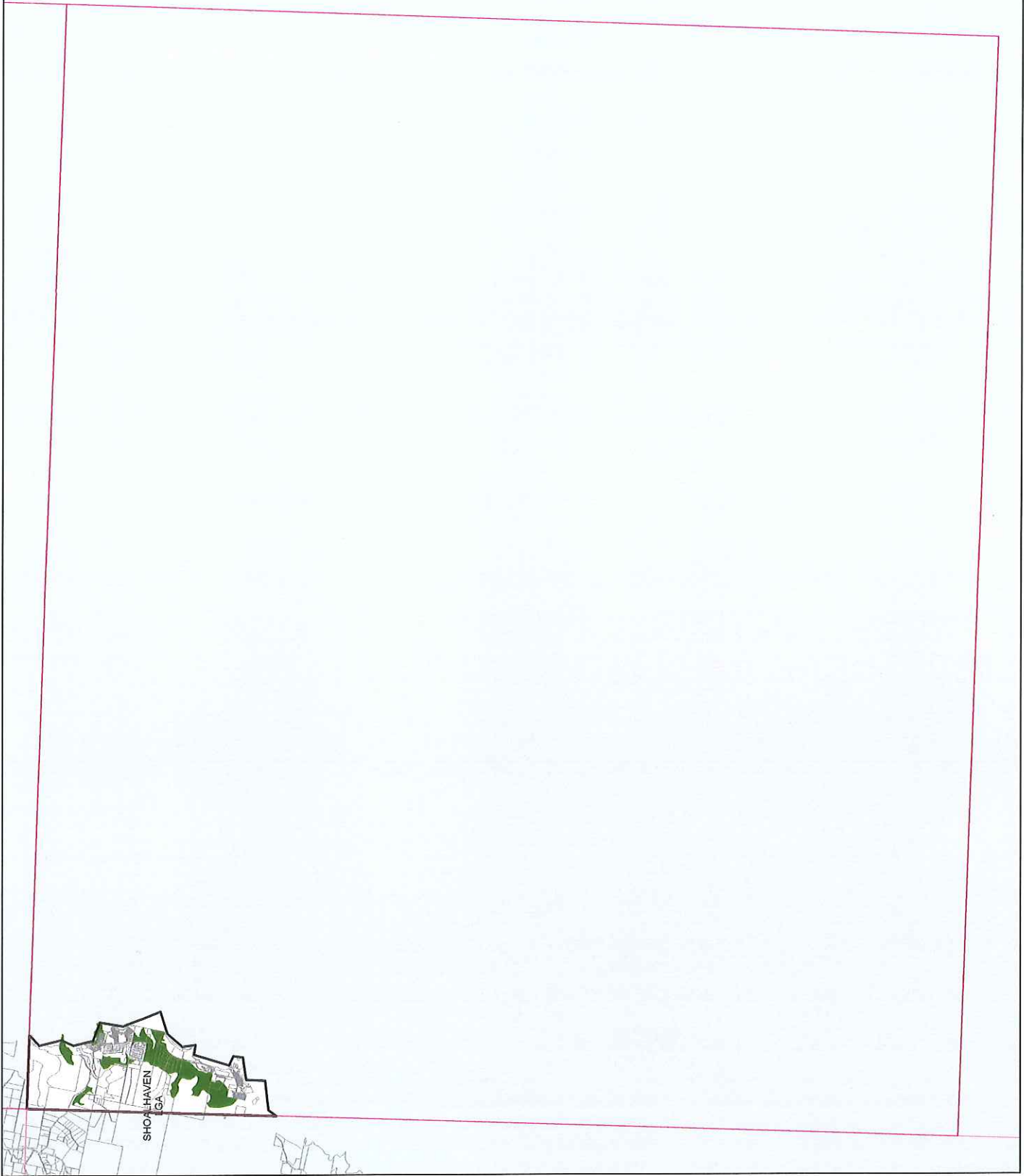
Strategic Agricultural Land Map - Sheet STA_043

Legend
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Cadastre
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Project: SEP 10/09/2013
 NSW Land and Property Information
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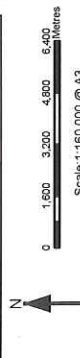


**State Environmental Planning
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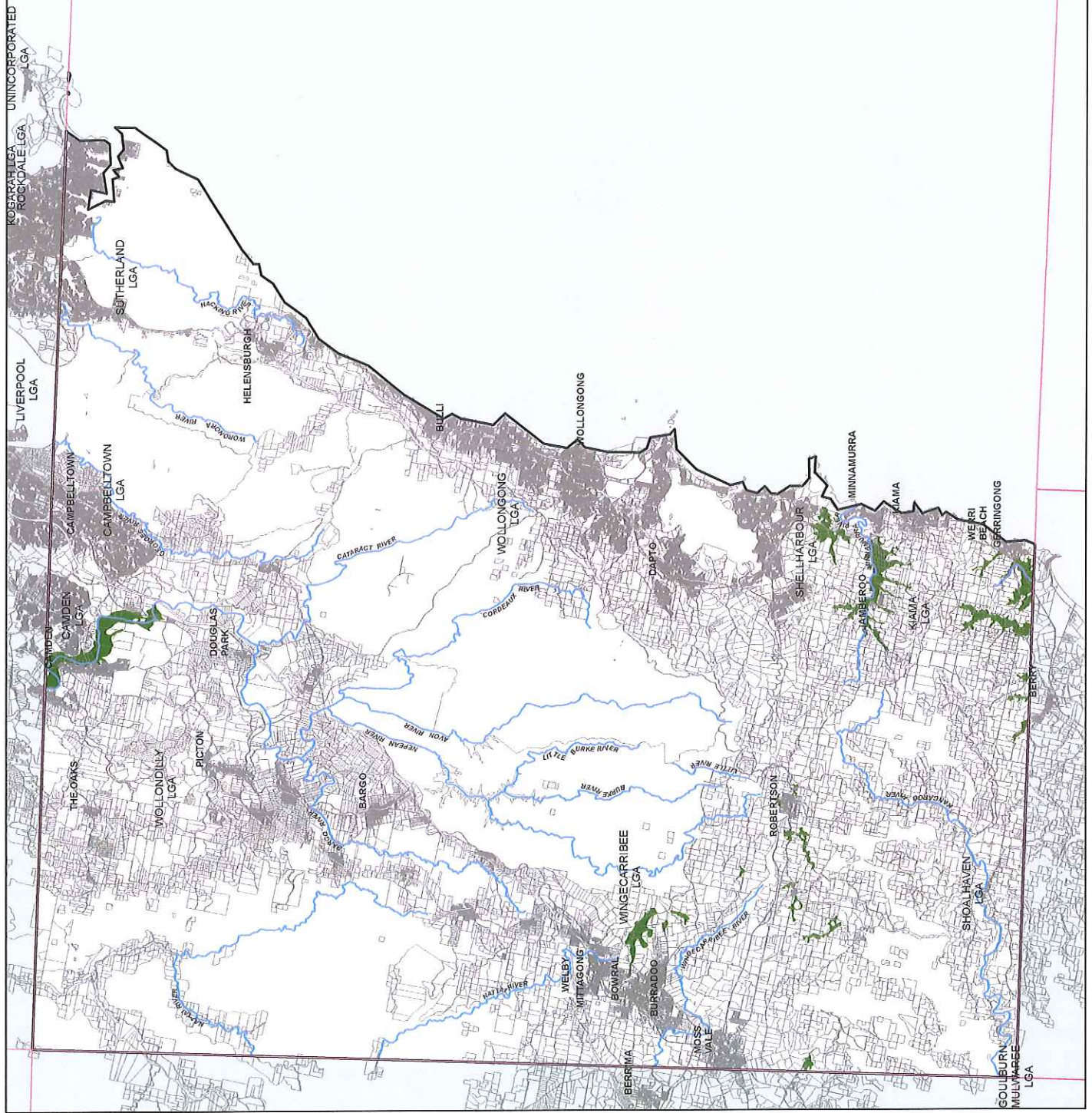
**Strategic Agricultural Land Map -
Sheet STA_044**

Legend
 Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land

Cadastre
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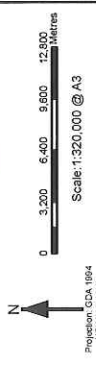
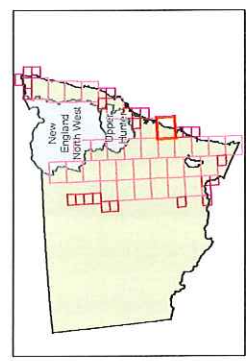
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 NSW Limits
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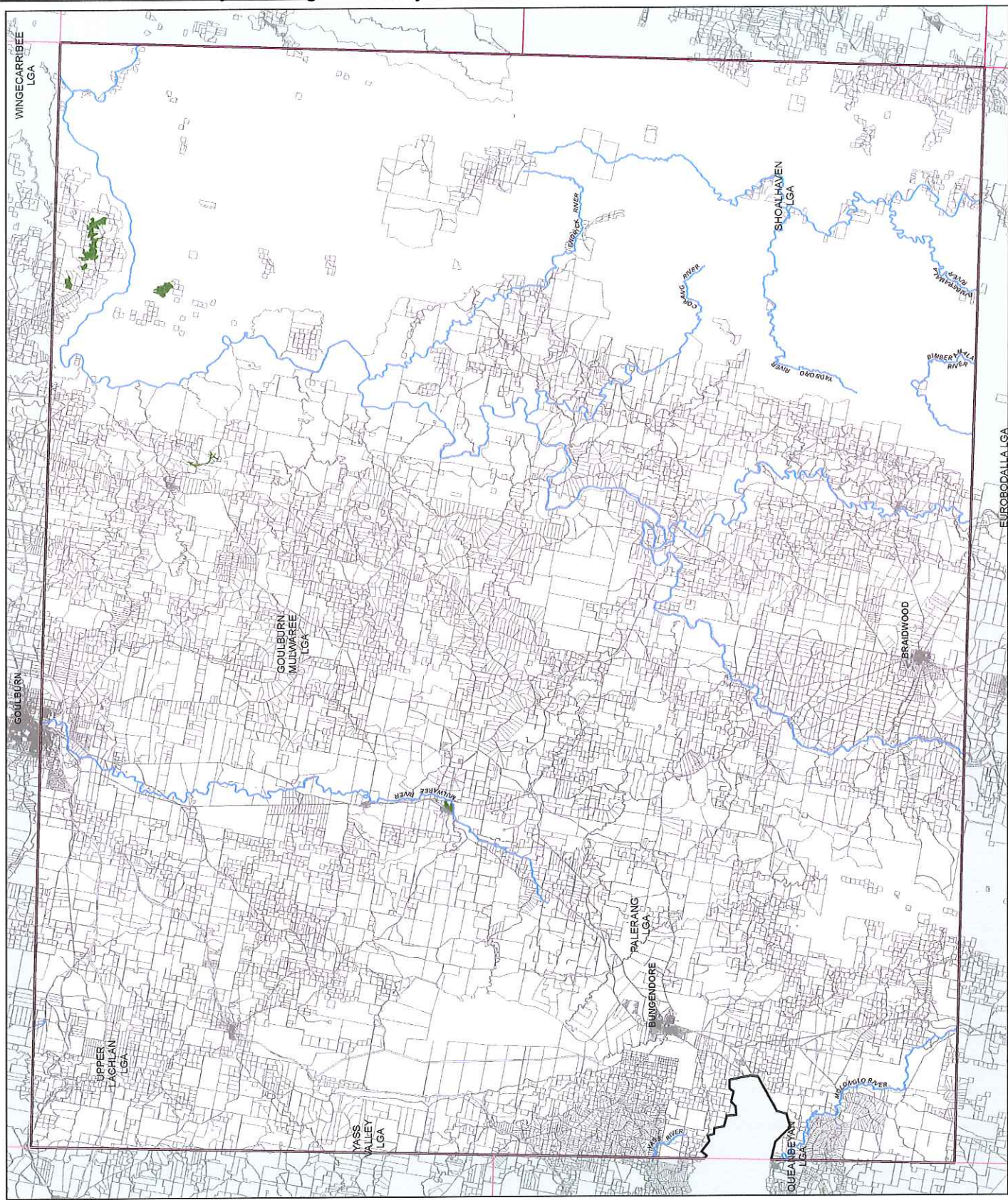
State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

Strategic Agricultural Land Map - Sheet STA_041

- Legend**
- Biophysical Strategic Agricultural Land
 - Cadastre
- Cadastre 10/09/2013 © Land and Property Information (LPI)



Map identification number: SEPP_MPE_STA_041_20130910

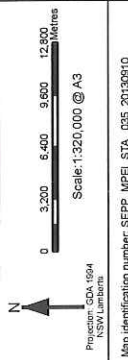
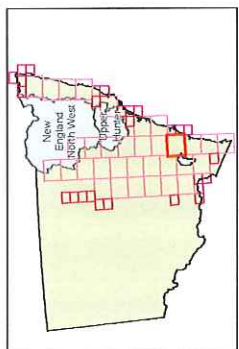


**State Environmental Planning
Policy (Mining, Petroleum
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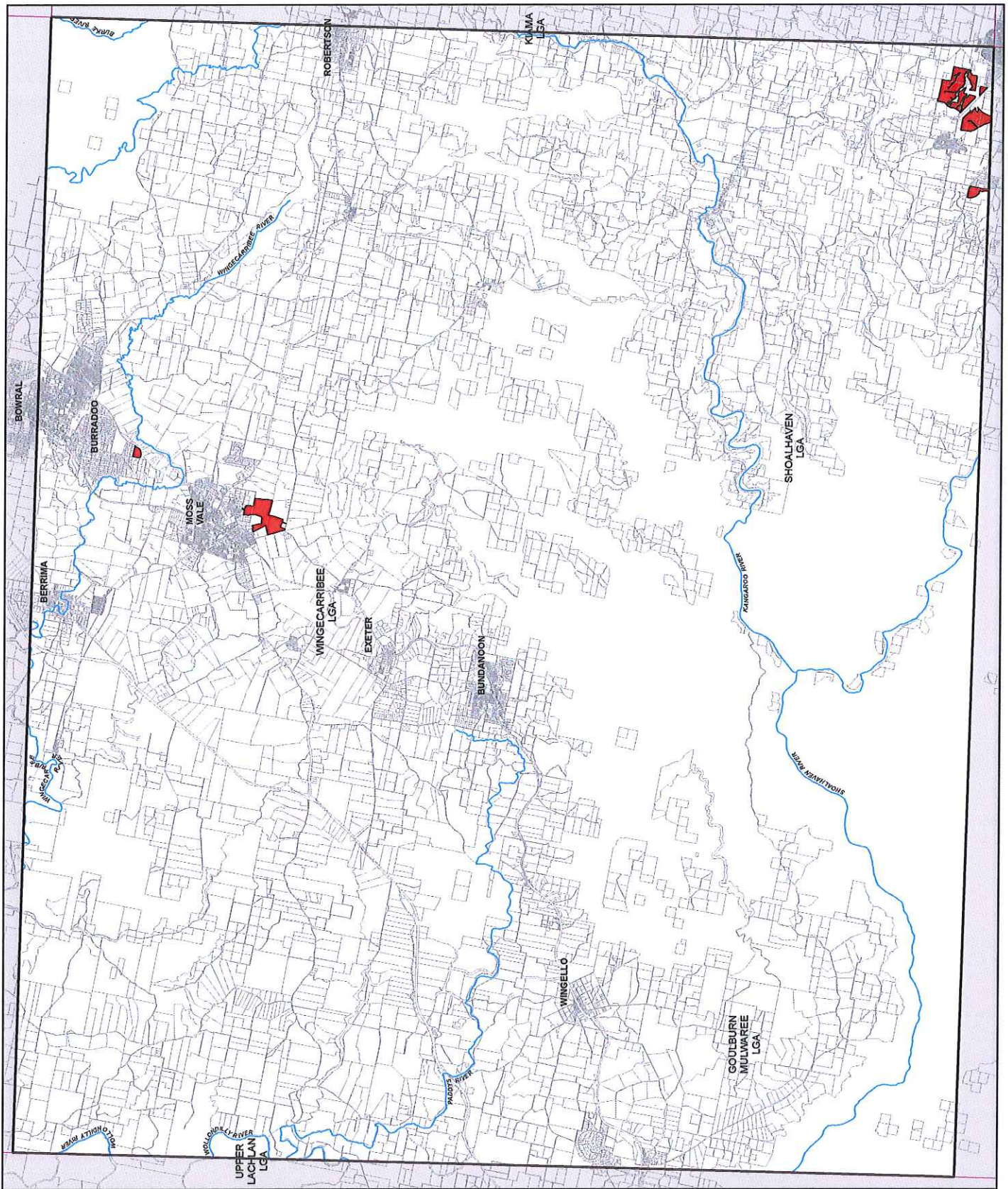
**Strategic Agricultural Land Map -
Sheet STA_035**

Legend
 Biophysical Strategic-Agricultural Land

Cadastral
 Cadastral 10/09/2013 © Land and Property Information (LPI)



Map identification number: SEPP_MPEI_STA_035_20100910

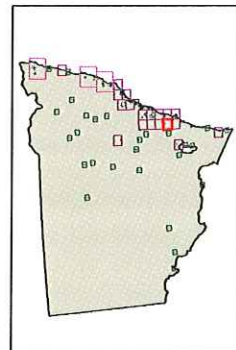


State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

Future Residential Growth Areas Land Map - Sheet STA_027

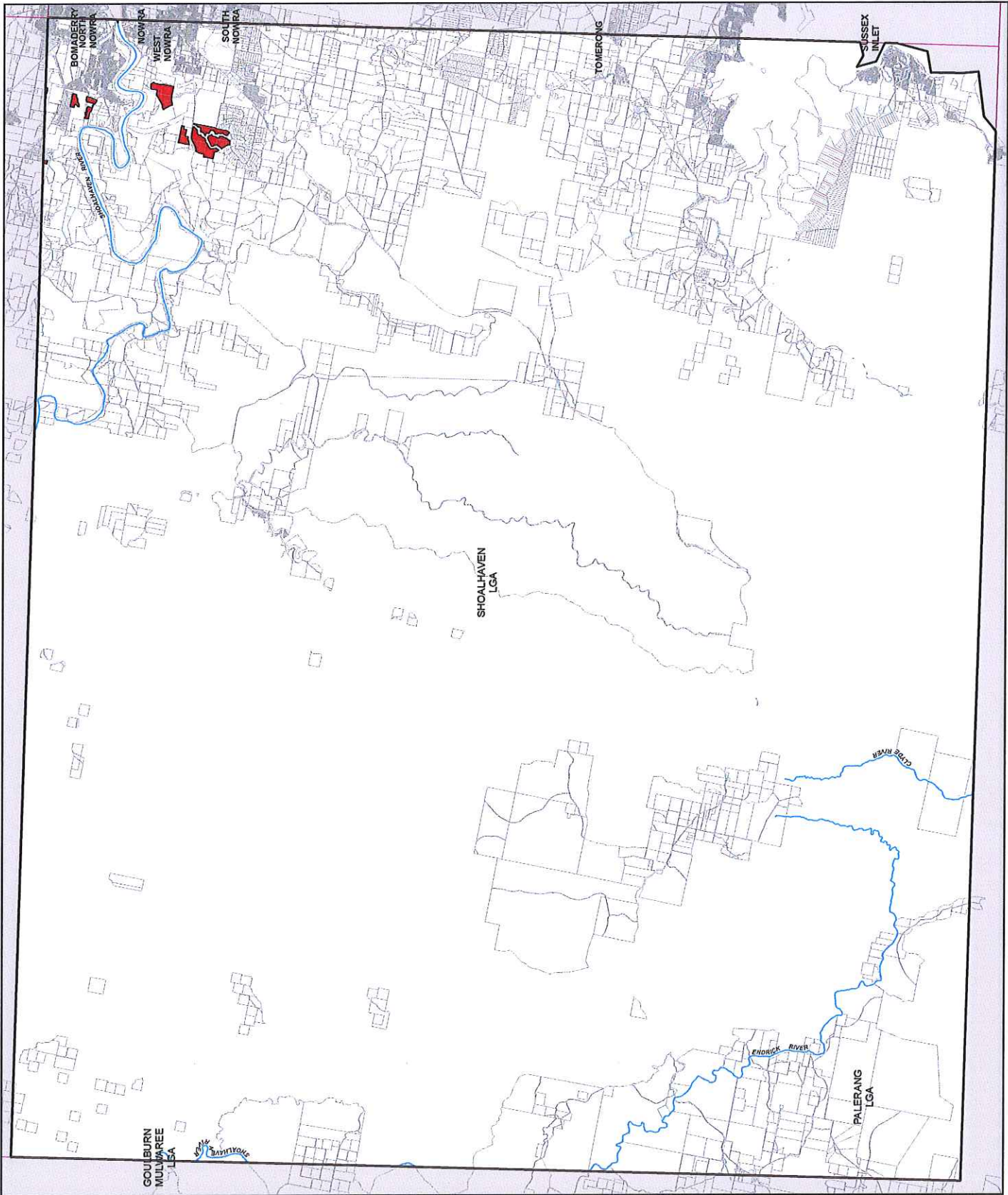
Legend
 Future Residential Growth Areas

Cadastre
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Proprietary GDA 1994
 MGA Lambert

Map Identification number: SEPP_WPEL_RGA_027_20130911



Planning & Infrastructure

State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

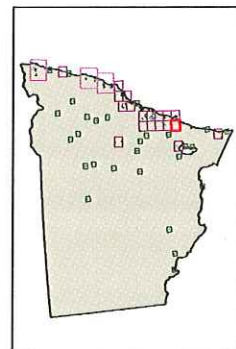
Future Residential Growth Areas Land Map - Sheet STA_028

Legend

Future Residential Growth Areas

Cadastre

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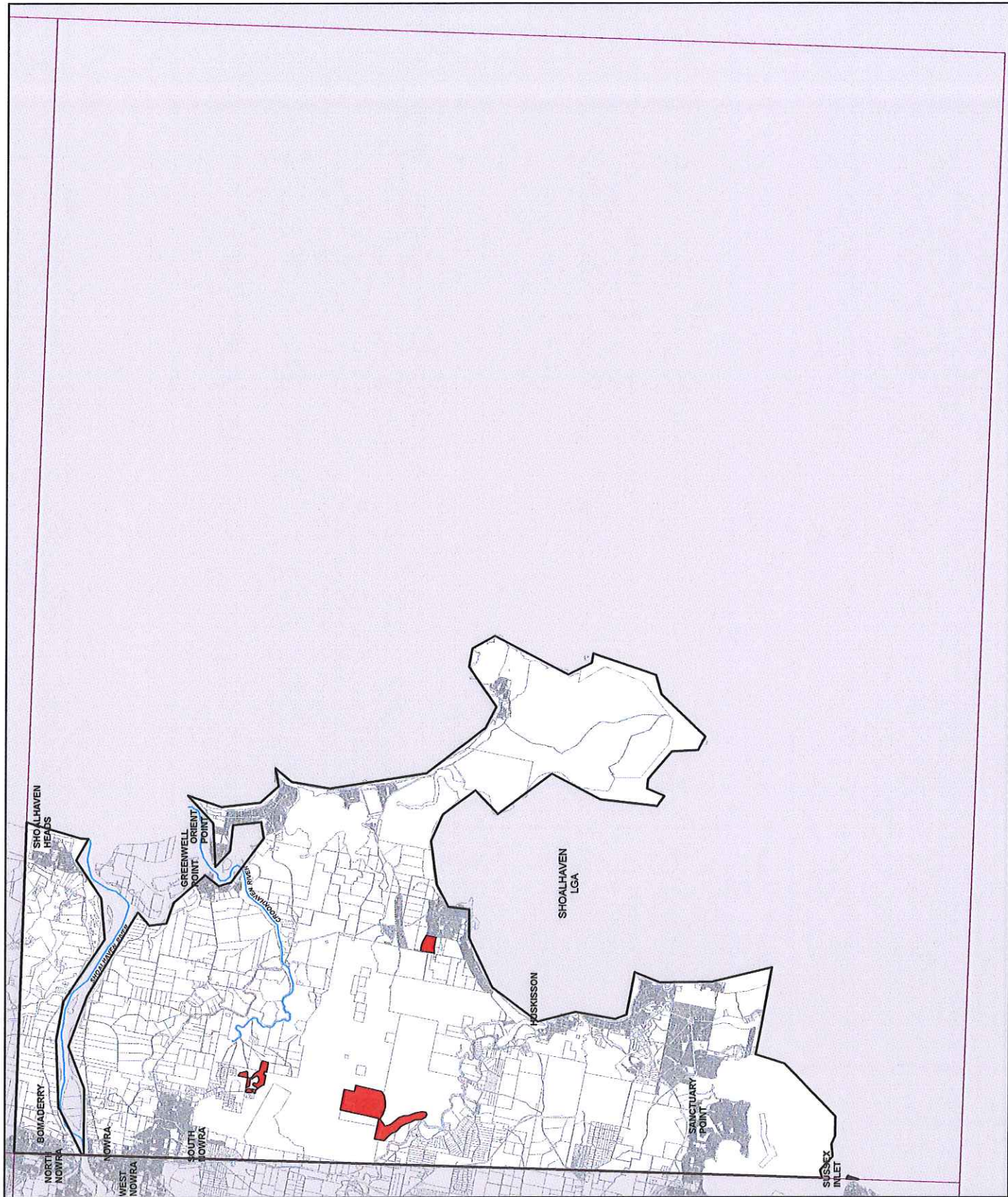


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Project: EPA 1604
MCA Lambton
Scale: 1:160,000 @ A3

Map identification number: SEPP_MIPF_RGA_028_20130811



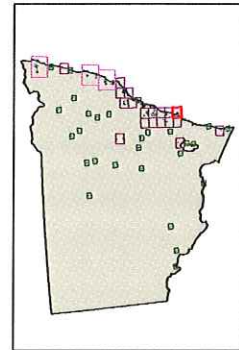
Planning & Infrastructure

State Environmental Planning Policy (Mining, Petroleum Production and Extractive Industries) 2007

Future Residential Growth Areas Land Map - Sheet STA_040

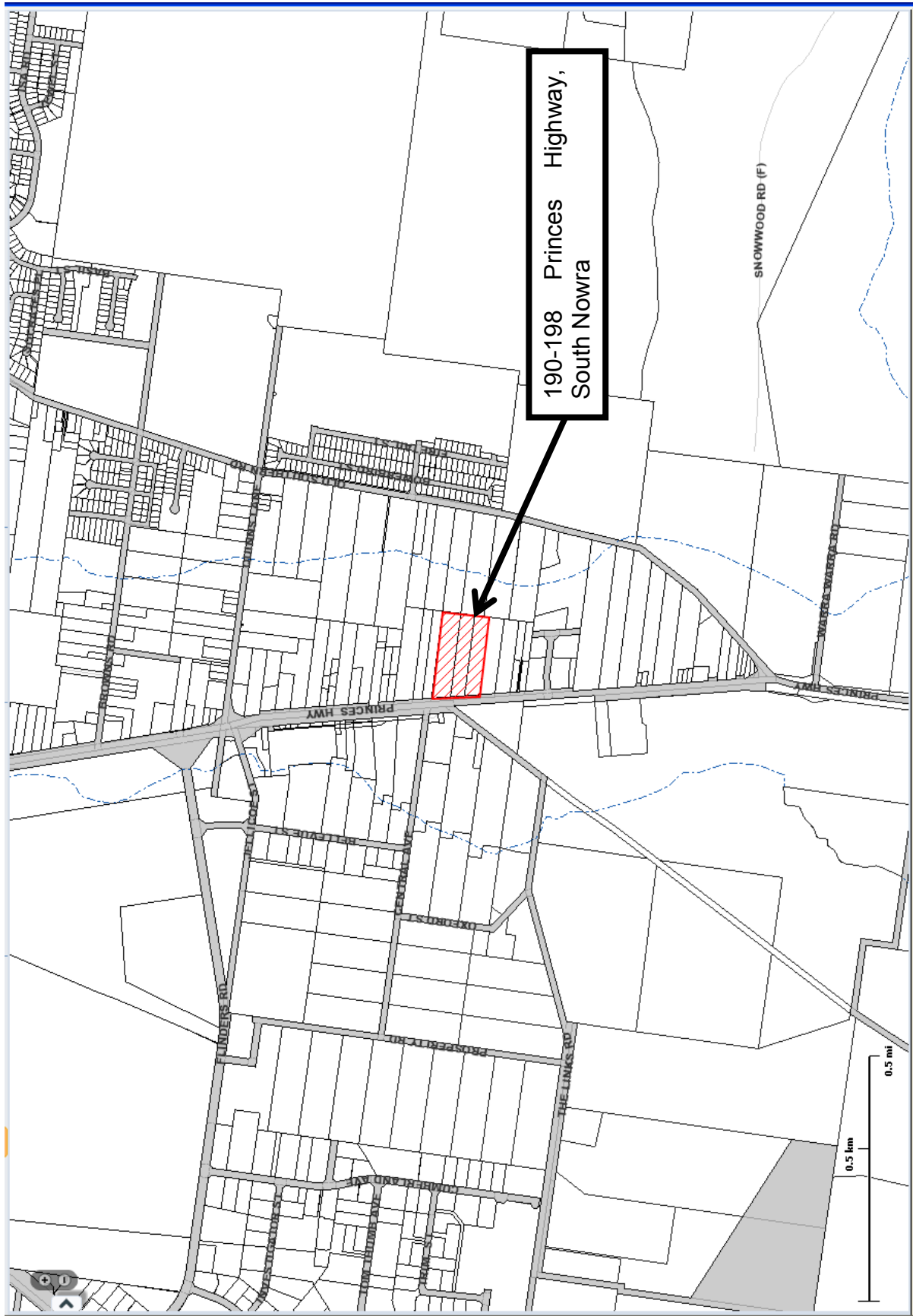
Legend
 Future Residential Growth Areas

Cadastral
 Cadastral 11/09/2013 © Land and Property Information (LPI)

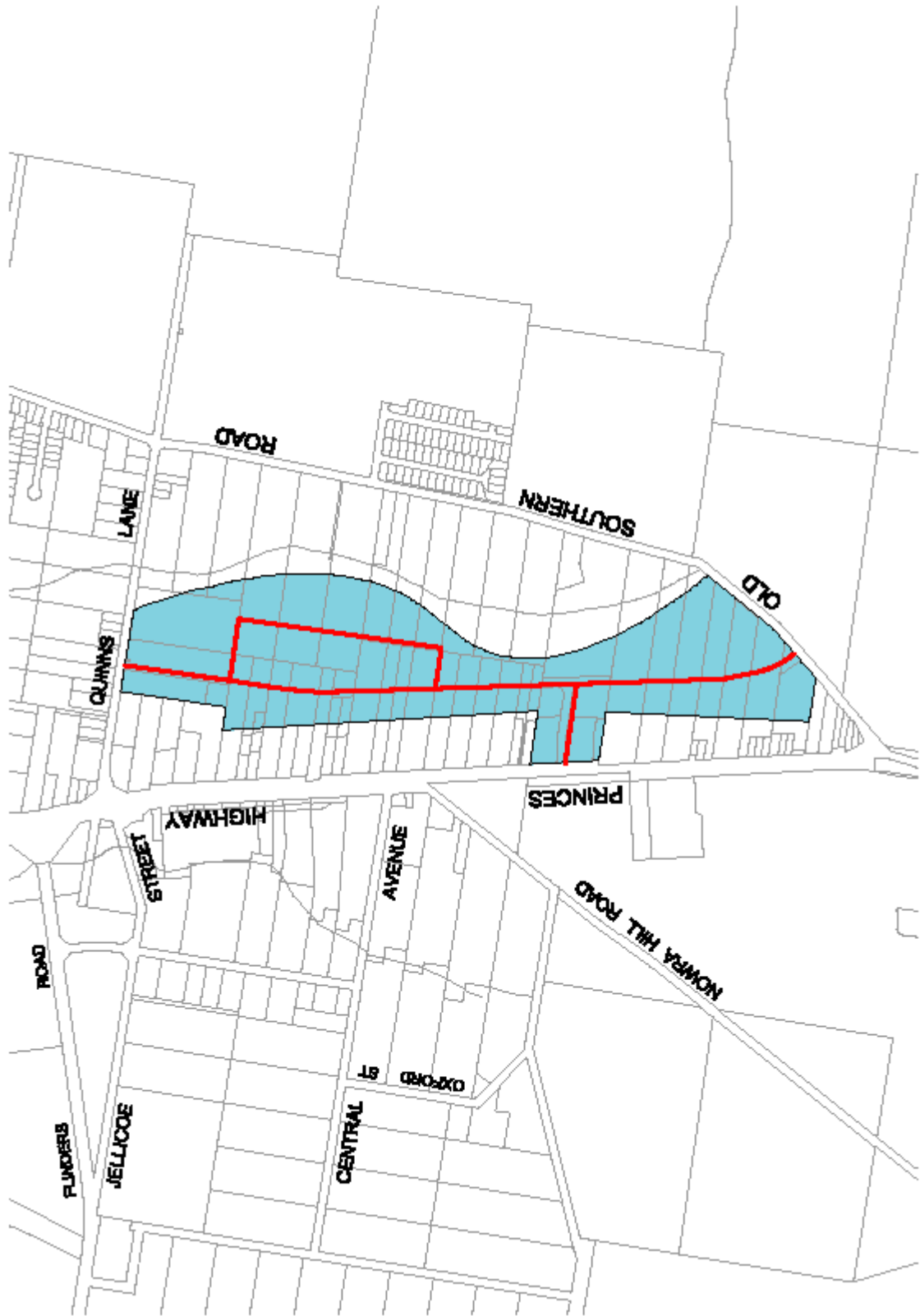


Projection: GDA 1984
 MGA Lambert
 Map identification number: SEPP_MIFE_RGA_040_20130911

Attachment A - Location map of subject land (190-198 Princes Highway, South Nowra)



Attachment B - Contributions project 01ROAD3104 (South Nowra Service Road)



Attachment C – Modified design for South Nowra Service Road

Subject Land

