Submission No 244

INQUIRY INTO MANAGEMENT OF PUBLIC LAND IN NEW SOUTH WALES

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Submission to inquiry into management of public land in New South Wales

The conversion process should ensure most importance is placed on long-term factors, both costs and benefits. Short-term factors are usually dominated by political considerations. Consideration of long-term effects will increase the importance of environmental impacts, as these are usually long-term effects, and not obvious in the immediate future. Operational, economic and social impacts are normally short-term effects, but they should not be allowed to override the long-term benefits when considering conversion of a particular site.

It is particularly important that economics is not given undue importance, as social and environmental impacts are much more relevant than economic growth to the sustainable future of our world.