

WEST BARRINA  
2478

TO THE NSW GOVERNMENT FLOOD INQUIRY  
FLOODS NORTHERN RIVERS 2022.

I HAVE LIVED HERE FOR OVER 20 YEARS & NEVER  
SEEN A FLOOD

ADMITTEDLY THE ESTATE HERE COULD HAVE BEEN  
BETTER PLANNED & HAD MORE CONDITIONS PUT ON IT BUT  
MY MAIN CONCERN IS THAT A PRIVATE COFFEE SCHOOL  
HAS BEEN BUILT ON AN AREA THAT AS FAR AS WE  
KNOW CONTAINED A FLOOD RETENTION POND & WATER  
HAS ACCUMULATED THERE EVERY TIME WE GET HEAVY RAIN  
FOR MANY YEARS, BEFORE THE CHURCH BOUGHT IT KNOWING  
FULL WELL THEY GOT IT CHEAPLY BECAUSE OF THIS POND.

THE FIRST FLOOD HERE WHEN THE RIVER BROKE ITS  
BANKS & FLOODED THE TOWN WE DONT BELIEVE THAT  
WESTLAND ESTATE WAS FLOODED DUE TO RIVER RISING.

WE THE RESIDENTS AT WEST BARRINA ARE  
BLAMING THE SCHOOL - THEY HAVE FOR MANY YEARS  
BEEN EXPANDING FAR BEYOND WHAT IS REASONABLE  
AS THEY ARE IN A RESIDENTIAL AREA & LATELY  
OVER THE YEARS QUIETLY FILLING THE BLOCK THEY ARE  
ON & IT HAS GOT TO THE STAGE, THE LATEST  
BUILT IS A MONSTROSITY OF A WALL WHICH TOWERS OVER  
ALL & SUNDRY & IS AN ABSOLUTE EYESORE

WE, MYSELF & 2 OTHER RESIDENT WALKED OVER  
THE GROUNDS OF THE NEW WALL & WE CAN SAY  
INSUFFICIENT DUE DILIGENCE REGARDING WATER RETENTION  
IS OBVIOUS & EVERY BIT OF CEMENT, PATHS, DRIVEWAYS  
HAS ALL BEEN WITH A GRADUATED SLOPE TOWARDS THE STREET

AND THE STREET IN QUESTION IS HORIZON DRIVE & INTO  
WESTLAND DRIVE

1/3/22

I MYSELF EVACUATED FOR 5 DAYS TO WOKWONBAR, BECAUSE I AM 88 & LIVE ON MY OWN BUT DO HAVE WONDERFUL NEIGHBOURS - RANG ME & SAID PACK VALUABLES, CLOTHING & I WILL BE OVER TO GET YOU, MIND YOU MY NEIGHBOUR AT THE TIME HAD 3 FOSTER CHILDREN, & ALSO ANOTHER NEIGHBOUR OVER THE ROAD FOLLOWED US TO WOKWONBAR - WE CAME BACK TO LOOK ON THE SATURDAY NOT KNOWING WHAT WE WOULD FIND. THEN ON SUNDAY WE MOVED BACK HOME WHERE VOLUNTEERS AGENCY WERE HELPING TO CLEAN UP & PUT DAMAGED OUT THE FRONT TO BE PICKED UP.

THE SECOND FLOOD HOWEVER WAS THE CYCLONIC CONDITION THAT DELUGED AUSTONVILLE WITH 430M WATER, THEN OUT & AROUND & BACK TO BAWINA WHERE IT DROPPED 400M.

THERE WAS NO WARNING WITH THIS ONE HOWEVER I RANG MY GRANDSON AT MIDNIGHT - THEY WERE ASLEEP HOWEVER MY GRANDDAUGHTER WOKE & SAID (NANA DOESN'T RING IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT FOR NOTHING LUKE. I WILL RING & ASKED TO PICK ME IT WAS FRIGHTENING TO SEE THE WATER RISING. MY GRANDSON HAS A HIGH UTÉ & WAS ABLE TO GET TO MY PLACE WHERE HE WAS ABSOLUTELY STUNNED BY WHAT HE SAW - HE LITERALLY LIFTED ME UP INTO THE TRUCK & I STAYED 2 DAYS WITH THEM, COMING HOME ON THE FRIDAY TO START CLEANING UP AGAIN.

BUT THIS FLOOD WAS CLEAN WATER FROM ABOVE & CAME TORRENTING OUT OF THE SCHOOL TO FLOOD HORMAN DRIVE, WESTLAND DRIVE, QUAIN PLACE, NEWLAND STREET, WESTLAND PLACE & CLARE CIRCUIT - ALL OF IT WAS FROM THE SCHOOL BECAUSE NEIGHBOURS ON THE CORNER OF WESTLAND DRIVE WHO

LIVE IN 2 STOREY SQA UPSTAIRS & SAW IT COMING FROM THE SCHOOL

DEVASTATION HAS FOLLOWED IN THIS ESTATE WITH SOME PLACES HAVING TO BE CUTTED & PEOPLE HAVING TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES. THE TRAUMA CANT POSSIBLY BE MEASURED, BECAUSE INSURANCE PREMIUMS WILL BE BEYOND MOST PEOPLES IMAGINATION & THIS IN ITSELF IS AN OTHER DISGRACE FOR MANY PEOPLE.

DUE DILIGENCE HAS NOT BEEN FOLLOWED BY

- 1 BALLINA SUIRE COUNCIL
- 2 REGIONAL PLANNING PANEL
- 3 NEWTON DENNY CHANEY (ARCHITECTS)

THE RESIDENTS OF THIS ESTATE WILL SETTLE FOR NOTHING LESS THAN FULL REMEDIATION OF THE HALL AREA OF THE SCHOOL BACK TO PREVIOUS STATE BEFORE BUILDING. IT COST \$6.5 MILLION TO BUILD THIS MONSTROSITY & WHAT IT WILL COST THE SCHOOL TO REMEDIATE LAND & ALSO THE COMPENSATION DUE TO PEOPLE AFFECTED IN THIS AREA WE ARE NOT PREPARED TO UNDERGO MORE FLOODING & DEVALUATION OF OUR PROPERTIES. WHICH WILL SURELY HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE

PS RESIDENTS HERE NEED TO BE RESPECTED & NOT DISREGARDED IN ANY DECISION MADE - PEOPLE HERE DO NOT WANT TO MOVE OR BE BOUGHT OUT BY ANYONE.

THERE IS QUENTY OF ROOM IN INDUSTRIAL CENTRES FOR PEOPLE WHO WANT TO KEEP EXPANDING UNTIL THEY BECOME AS BIG AS THEY LIKE & ARE NOT A NIGHTMARE FOR RESIDENTIAL AREAS SUCH AS OURS