

From: Peter and Alison Watson
Sent: Tuesday, 24 February 2009 4:06 PM
To: RPDC
Subject: Ralphs Bay

Dear Sir/ Madam,

As a resident of the Lauderdale/ Acton Park area for the past 35 years, and business operator for 24 years, I feel it is my right to voice my opinion on the proposed Lauderdale Quay development. I am totally opposed to this development for very many reasons.

Firstly, the piece of bay on which this is to be sited is a Conservation area and home to many species of animals and plants. In particular, large numbers of birds call these sand flats home and many of these are from species whose numbers are in decline. They cannot just call in the movers and go to another home. Nature does not work like that. It is our responsibility to ensure the bay is not compromised by a housing development for humans and the housing for the birds is destroyed.

Secondly, this is an absolutely ridiculous place to build houses as anyone who lives in this area knows. The winds blow in that bay so strongly as they funnel up through the D'Entrecasteau Channel from Antarctica to our south. This is not a climate similar to that of Queensland where these canal estates have been built, and are now showing so many problems. Ralphs Bay is a wild place with a free spirit and great beauty and it is our duty to protect it. Ralphs Bay is NOT FOR SALE for any money, and as a Tasmanian and resident of the area I feel this place has been a part of my soul for many, many years.

Thirdly, there is an abundance of land in this area for building houses and there are quite a few subdivisions being developed at present, all on land with lovely views and shelter from the wind, at Oakdowns and Glebe Hill near Howrah. Many blocks of land are being released now. Houses should be built on land, not our bay. This seems a simple idea to me.

There are a number of other reasons for my opposition to this development. It is not in keeping with the character of Lauderdale and would destroy the beautiful vista of the bay with Mt Wellington as a backdrop. Canal developments have been banned in other states due to the problems caused to the environment and they are as such unsuitable for Tasmania. Above all else, I see Ralphs Bay as a unique and very special part of Tasmania, our coastline, the wildlife and our hearts and souls as Tasmanians. As such, it is imperative that we as Tasmanians protect it from the greed of a developer wanting to profit from the destruction of this beautiful place. I hope we have all moved on from this type of exploitation of our coastline and its animals.

Yours Sincerely,

Alison Watson