

CENTRAL COAST COUNCIL

DEVELOPMENT & REGULATORY SERVICES

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Russell Smith

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To the General Manager and councillors,

I write to you in regards to the Planning Scheme Draft in relation to my block (property number 5045700055) situated on Edinborough Road, Abbotsham. The block is currently classified as 'Rural Resource' but the proposed changes would see it classed 'Agricultural' which I believe the ground not to be suited to such a classification. Whilst the block is 20.74 hectares, over %50 of it is natural bush and what is cleared is second grade ground comprising of a gravel base and clay top.

From an aerial view it may look reasonably flat but overall it is quite steep and badly broken. The ground is not suitable for cropping which has been proven with poor results from attempts to grow oats for cattle feed. The land cannot even provide for 8 head of cattle over winter.

The North-Motton to Forth Pipeline may pass through a small section of the property but this is only because of it's original path proving to be too hard to excavate due to rock.

I use the property for my personal rehabilitation and it will never be sold out of the family or used a manner in which that would turn extensive profits. It is currently primarily used for the supply of my family's wood heater fuel.

In closing I would like to reiterate the fact that the property is not croppable and sits unoccupied. It has only ever been seen as a hobby farm and storage location for my boats and caravan.

I ask for a response and your greatest cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Russell A. Smith

