



TRISH DOYLE MP
STATE MEMBER FOR THE BLUE MOUNTAINS

Hon. Paul Scully MP
Minister for Planning and Public Spaces
Via email

URGENT

13 October 2025

Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Planning System Reforms) Bill 2025
Blue Mountains Conservation Society

Dear Minister Scully,

Paul

I write to you on behalf of the Blue Mountains Conservation Society (BMCS). As you no doubt recall, you met with BMCS in 2023 to discuss their concerns regarding the Blue Mountains Wildlife and Tourism Development. I have been a member of BMCS for many years, and I support them in their ongoing efforts to advocate for the natural environment of the Blue Mountains. I can attest to the excellence of their work and always welcome their insights.

As outlined in the attached correspondence, BMCS is extremely concerned about the potential impacts of the Environmental Planning and Assessment Amendment (Planning System Reforms) Bill 2025 that was tabled in Parliament on 17 September 2025. They feel that if the Bill passes without significant amendments, NSW will be left with a degraded and wholly inadequate assessment process. While BMCS recognises that there is an urgent need for more housing and applauds our Government's efforts to address this issue, they feel that jettisoning environmental and public-interests assessments is reckless and shortsighted.

Given the major changes to the planning system the Bill proposes and the adverse community impacts and increased environmental and corruption risks it generates, and given that the Bill's introduction to parliament and potential passing four weeks later has blindsided the community and stakeholders and allowed no time to fully understand its ramifications, the Blue Mountains Conservation Society requests that you support:

- *referring the Bill to committee for proper scrutiny and public consultation*
- *delaying voting on the Bill until 2026*
- *removing the most egregious amendments*

Minister, my community feels overwhelmingly that this Bill is progressing too quickly. Given the very significant and long-lasting impact that the proposed reforms will have

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on our state's built and natural environment, we must take the time to fully consider these impacts. Further consultation is desperately needed. **Therefore, they respectfully request that we pause this process and give all stakeholders an opportunity to share their concerns.**

I also ask that you meet with myself and a small delegation from BMCS, as soon as possible, to discuss the impact this Bill could have on the Blue Mountains. Among other things, we seek urgent clarification on how the proposed reforms might affect this World Heritage Area that is extremely bushfire prone.

Yours sincerely



Trish Doyle MP

Member for Blue Mountains

Parliamentary Secretary for Environment, Heritage, Climate Change and Energy

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