

**To: Hon. Brad Hazzard, Minister for Planning and Infrastructure and
Mr Daniel Myles, Mayor, Blue Mountains City Council**

We, the residents of the Blue Mountains, understand that the draft Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plan (LEP) for the Blue Mountains is currently scheduled to be on public exhibition for only 2 months, during November and December 2013.



We call on you to extend the exhibition period to at least 3 months for the following reasons:

- The Blue Mountains is the only Local Government Area located within a national park and World Heritage Area. The challenge of planning for both development and environment protection in such an area is particularly complex. More than 2 months is needed for adequate community notification, scrutiny and preparation of submissions to the draft LEP.
- There is **proven public interest** in the Blue Mountains LEPs. The Blue Mountains LEP 2005 exhibition attracted over 1000 submissions and the following Commission of Inquiry attracted a record number of submissions (311).
- The established practice of Blue Mountains City Council has been to exhibit draft LEPs for 3 months.
- Blacktown and many other Councils have exhibited their draft Standard Instrument Local Environmental Plans for 3 months. The Blue Mountains draft LEP will arguably be more complex than any of these other draft plans and will require extensive communication with the community.
- The proposed November-December exhibition period is not a good time to hold community information sessions and for preparing submissions.

Given name	Family name	Address	Signature

Please return to: Blue Mountains Conservation Society, PO Box 29, Wentworth Falls NSW 2782