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Subject: We need your help to stop the attack on NSW planning laws



We need your help to stop the attack on NSW planning laws

The NSW Government and Opposition are conspiring to decimate our state's environmental planning laws. **We need your voice now — will you write to the Premier and Opposition Leader to tell them they're going too far?**

The housing crisis is being used as cover for sweeping changes to the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act*. But these changes go far beyond housing approvals: they strip away state-wide safeguards for threatened species, ecological communities, and cultural heritage.

Even worse, the Minister for Planning would gain unchecked powers to bypass environmental assessment altogether. These “short and dirty” processes would be triggered at the Minister's discretion, with no community scrutiny and no right of appeal.

If passed, the reforms would allow highways, pipelines, mines — even large housing estates — to be approved with the stroke of a pen, regardless of their environmental impacts. Shockingly, the changes don't just remove the duty to consider environmental harm, they make it **unlawful** to do so.

Why should we trust politicians with such unaccountable power? Why invite corruption and secrecy back into our planning system?

Please act now. Write to Premier Chris Minns and Opposition Leader Mark Speakman and remind them that NSW expects planning laws to:

- **Protect our environment and heritage**
- **Maximise transparency**
- **Give communities a genuine voice**

Their proposal is a huge step backwards. Contact them here:

- **Premier Chris Minns:** <https://www.nsw.gov.au/nsw-government/premier-of-nsw/contact-premier>
- **Opposition Leader Mark Speakman:** liberal.leader@parliament.nsw.gov.au

For a detailed analysis of the risks, see the [Environmental Defenders Office briefing note](#).

Yes, there is a housing crisis, and government must act. But these changes go far too far. They strip away hard-won protections, trample transparency, and open the door to reckless development. If we stay silent, NSW risks sliding back into an era where political influence and backroom deals override science, community voices, and the rule of law.

Now is the time to speak up.

Please write to the Premier and Opposition leader before 14 October.

Yours sincerely,



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protecting nature through community action



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