

**The National Trust  
of Australia (New South Wales)**



**NATIONAL TRUST**

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The Hon Frank Sartor MP  
Level 34  
Governor Macquarie Tower  
1 Farrer Place  
Sydney NSW 2000

22 September 2006

Dear Minister

**Catherine Hill Bay, NSW**

The National Trust of Australia (NSW) has just learnt of the most recent proposals by the NSW Government to facilitate two developments at Catherine Hill Bay (a 50ha development enveloping Mine Camp on land owned by Coal & Allied and the other to the immediate south of (and contiguous with) Catherine Hill Bay by Rosecorp).

The National Trust has, for many years, had Urban Conservation Areas encompassing the two settlements at Catherine Hill Bay. The Trust opposes any extension of the urban area of these settlements as this would destroy the very reason for listing the villages (the well-defined urban edge to the villages set in the landscape as an evocative physical reminder of the mining days at Catherine Hill Bay).

The Trust also opposes any development within the visual catchment of the settlements. There are opportunities for development at Catherine Hill Bay out of sight of the two existing settlements (ie outside their visual catchments) but the wisdom of such development must be questioned given the 'scenic protection' zoning of much of the land around the two existing settlements and the recent Land & Environment Court Cases involving the refused Rosecorp developments. The promise of land for a National Park is poor compensation for the loss of such an important settlement to the history of NSW.

The Trust would urge that proper, independent and thorough heritage and environmental assessments be undertaken of the Catherine Hill Bay settlements and the surrounding land to establish clear parameters for future development of the area which will preserve the historic, aesthetic and landscape of this very special part of the NSW coast."

Yours sincerely

Jacqui Goddard  
Conservation Director  
cc. Reece McDougall Executive Director, Department of Planning (Heritage Office)

*The National Trust is a not-for-profit, non-government, community-based organisation  
working to conserve our built, natural and cultural heritage.*