9 June, 2010

MATRAVILLE RESIDENTS RECEIVE ADDITIONAL PLANNING PROTECTION

Residents living near Port Botany have had a win today, with the NSW Government prohibiting the use of 700 metres of land adjoining residential areas as a container depot.

Minister for Planning, Tony Kelly, said there had been concerns the land, to the south and west of Purcell Park that adjoins residential land, could be used for a container depot in the future.

“While the ongoing operations at Port Botany are of critical importance to the NSW economy, it’s also imperative local residents are adequately protected from potential noise, visual and traffic impacts,” the Minister said.

“Today’s decision means a permanent buffer has now been created between potentially noisy port activities and people’s homes.

“However, while the use of the land for a container depot is now prohibited, other industrial uses permitted under the current zoning remain.”

The prohibition takes effect immediately through an amendment to the Major Development State Environmental Planning Policy (SEPP) and follows consultation with Randwick City Council and Sydney Port Authority.

The change does not affect the existing container handling facility’s operations within Port Botany itself and its associated industrial zones.

The value of the ports of Botany, Port Kembla and Newcastle to NSW’s employment and economy was recognised through their declaration as State significant sites under the Major Development SEPP in 2009.

That declaration protected industrial land within the three port sites along with key transport corridors which are essential to their operation.