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Kurnell Peninsula proposal not supported by department

A proposal to rezone an area of the Kurnell Peninsula to allow a large mixed-use development has not been supported by the Department of Planning & Environment.

Deputy Director General Richard Pearson said the proponent Besmaw applied to the department for a pre-Gateway Review in January after Sutherland Shire Council failed to support the proposal within the required 90-day timeframe.

The proposal sought to rezone 176ha located in the central part of the Kurnell Peninsula to allow retail, commercial, industrial, residential, recreational and tourist development.

Mr Pearson said the department assessed the proposal on its merits, incorporating feedback from Council, the Commonwealth Department of Infrastructure and Regional Development and Sydney Airport Corporation Limited.

Major concerns raised in the assessment include the lack of access to major infrastructure, the potential impact of development on the operations of Sydney Airport, possible aircraft noise impacts on future residents and potential impacts on surrounding environmentally sensitive areas.

“Our assessment found there are a number of strategic issues that need to be addressed before finalising appropriate future uses for the site,” Mr Pearson said.

“The nature of land uses on the Kurnell Peninsula is changing, with heavy industry declining, and this presents a real opportunity to consider the future this 176ha site and how it can relate to the Peninsula as a whole.

“As such, the department believes the site should be included in strategic planning for the NSW Government’s South Subregional Delivery Plan.”

Mr Pearson said the update of the Kurnell Peninsula Land Use Safety Study will also provide policy advice on land use, safety and evacuation issues arising from future development on the Peninsula.

The department’s pre-Gateway Review assessment report can be viewed at: http://pgrtracking.planning.nsw.gov.au/

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