

28 May 2018

Hon. Gabrielle Upton MLA
NSW Minister for the Environment, Minister for Heritage
and Minister for Local Government
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Please address all communications
to the General Manager

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Dear Honorable Gabrielle Upton

Air Pollution Monitoring in Tweed Shire and the Northern Rivers

Three potential impacts on air quality have been raised as a concern by members of the Tweed community and in turn the elected Councillors, these include:

- increased traffic at Gold Coast Airport
- continuation of cane burning prior to harvest
- use of solid fuel heaters

Tweed Shire Council resolved at its Council meeting on Thursday, 17 May 2018 that:

1. NSW Environment Protection Authority undertakes a comprehensive, specific and targeted air quality monitoring for Tweed Shire and Gold Coast residents.
2. This report to be made available to Council and the general public.
3. A suitable site in Tweed Heads, Banora Point or Kingscliff that is potentially impacted by air traffic pollution and a suitable site in Tweed Shire impacted by cane fires and wood heaters to be included in the NSW Air Quality Network.

Gold Coast Airport:

Tweed Shire provides a number of landing and take-off routes for the Gold Coast Airport. It is unknown if this is causing any air pollution challenges for both Tweed and Gold Coast residents.

Council believes a comprehensive joint initiative that monitors the impact of the Gold Coast Airport be considered by the NSW EPA with the corresponding Queensland counterparts.

Council has recently been advised that the Gold Coast Airport Corporation is intending to do some air quality monitoring. It would be beneficial if this data was requested by the NSW EPA on a periodic basis.

The scope and methodology proposed could also be considered by the NSW EPA.

Broad Air Pollution issues and inclusion in the NSW Air Quality Framework:

Council is regularly requested to provide comment on air quality from the community and particularly asthmatics and others adversely impacted community members.

Council is aware of the NSW Air Quality Framework and understands that there are no monitoring sites in the Northern Rivers region and seeks your consideration of establishing a monitoring site/s in Tweed Shire, particular consideration could be given adjacent to cane land.

We appreciate your consideration of these matters.

Yours faithfully



Troy Green PSM
GENERAL MANAGER