

Mick Gentleman MLA
Minister for Planning and Land Management
ACT Legislative Assembly
GPO Box 1020 CANBERRA ACT

A letter from ten
community groups
3 July 2016

Dear Minister

Federal Golf Course Residential Development

We understand that the Federal Golf Course intends to apply to you as the Minister for Planning, to vary their current concessional lease arrangements, so as to allow residential development on land currently leased only for recreational purposes. As Minister you are required to determine whether it is in the public interest to consider such an application.

We as a collective of community groups and representative bodies request as a matter of some urgency a meeting with you, where we would like to outline the considerable community interest in this proposal and concerns that these interests will be compromised should the proposal proceed.

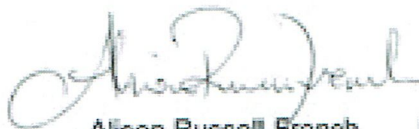
Arrangements for this meeting can be made with Ross Kingsland, president of the Red Hill Regenerators (0415 256 951).

Our groups represent many of the local residents and people with a long standing interest and commitment to Red Hill Reserve and its nationally significant woodland. By way of background, our organisations share one or more of the following concerns:


- Direct and indirect impacts on endangered woodland, important wildlife, and a nature reserve from infrastructure, fire mitigation and other works required for the development;
- Impingement and restriction on use of land much utilised and loved by the community;
- Impacts to wildlife by having new development adjacent to a core part of the reserve currently relatively remote (> 200m) from existing houses;
- Alterations to current road arrangements, including possible, connection to Brereton St, creating a "rat run" from Woden to South Canberra;
- The possibility that the proposed development is just the thin end of the wedge creating the precedent for even further development in the future
- Increased hazards to wildlife, cyclist and pedestrian users of Red Hill Reserve resulting from increased traffic and speed on Gowrie Drive and Red Hill Drive generated by the construction and operation of the development;
- Loss or damage to historic 1917-1920 red flowering plantings by Charles Weston; and
- Serious adverse impact on the amenity of existing residents abutting the golf course.

Representatives of our groups look forward to meeting with you to further detail these concerns.

Yours sincerely



Alison Russell-French
President
Canberra Ornithologist
Group



Larry O'Loughlin
Executive Director
Conservation Council
ACT Region



Kimber Pullen for
Ann Milligan
Acting President
Friends of Grasslands



Roger Adcock
Spokesperson
Garran and Hughes
Residents Action Group



Ruth Cully
Spokesperson
Hughes Residents
Association



Gary Kent
Chairperson
Inner South Canberra
Community Council

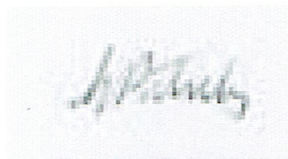


IP Rod Griffiths
President
National Parks
Association (ACT)

Eric Martin
President
National Trust (ACT)



Ross Kingsland
President
Red Hill Regenerators



Glenys Patulny
President
Southern ACT
Catchment Group

