



As Gillian our chairperson is away I am writing this update on behalf of Gillian and the BPA Committee.

It is great pleasure to inform you that after a year of various submissions to the Commonwealth by the Brigadoon Progress Association which resulted in pressure from the Commonwealth to Peet Limited for a referral, the Commonwealth have deemed the proposed action by Peet limited a controlled action. As such Peet Limited cannot proceed with the proposed action until the assessment process has been completed and the Minister for the Environment, Heritage and the Arts has decided whether or not to grant approval.

It is however unfortunate that our own State decision makers were unable to act on the data and submissions made by the Brigadoon Progress Association. It has only been through the hard work and perseverance of the Brigadoon Progress Association, individuals and other environmental support groups that we have been able to thus far protect matters that we know are significant to both the State and Commonwealth. Matters that are significant to our heritage.

One positive to come from the hard work, it has highlighted the need for all proposed development that is located in environmental sensitive areas require thorough consideration and assessment from experts within the field. We found in this case that the developers did not complete a thorough and appropriate level of assessment (24 hours), did not use up to date data or consult with experts in the field and also that the local level of decision makers did not have the qualifications neither the knowledge of environmental matters and legislation to make a decision that would protect these sensitive areas from irresponsible planning. Even in light of the 20 year approval, decision makers had a duty of care to ensure this plan is conducive to these significant matters.

In light of this the Brigadoon Progress Association is moving forward, we have been working with experts in the field over the past months and have a greater understanding of the causes of negative impacts to the environment and understand how ecological communities are dependent on each other for survival, we will continue our commitment through the next phases of Commonwealth assessment. Some of you have been an important part of this process and we would like you to continue assisting us with your expertise.

The BPA thanks you all for your continued support. We will need your assistance through the next assessment phases. Once the Commonwealth opens up the next phase for public comment we will need people from the wider public to comment. These matters of significance is not isolated to residents of Brigadoon, these matters are significant to the people living in WA. Our opposition to the development has never been about our needs it has been about protecting matters of significance to the State and Commonwealth and in particular the threaten species which are dependent on the ecological systems within the proposed area and surrounds. Brigadoon is not the key to their survival but certainly significant element to their survival.

There are many issues surrounding this result that would take a significant amount of your time, we will endeavour to outline the main issues in the next newsletter which will be posted on the BPA website which in the next couple of weeks and in addition post any activities or data that is significant to the next assessment phases, please don't hesitate to pass this information onto people within your community and networks.

Kind Regards

Juliet Cusato-Nocker (on behalf of Chair Gillian Lamont and the Brigadoon Progress Association Committee)