

# GREG PETTY - Independent Candidate for Heathcote

*Member of John Hatton's Independent Team*

## **MEDIA RELEASE**



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### **Petty says: O'Farrell fenced out by Campbell**

***Greg Petty questions the Opposition Leader's plans for the Dharawal.***

The Opposition Leader's plan to salvage the virgin bushland of the northern Illawarra and southern Sydney escarpment and connect it with the Royal National Park of Sydney has been hindered by the recent developments of ALP Member for Keira's fencing throughout the area.

Fences that stand 1.8 metres high along the railway between Engadine and Coalcliff, barricading the wildlife in and out of the Royal National Park, renders the plan almost impossible. These fences were approved by MP David Campbell as Transport Minister, to prevent deer crossing the railway line and no thought given to the migratory patterns of our native animals.

The Royal National Park, Dharawal SCA, and Garrawarra are only linked by fragmented bushland of the Helensburgh/Oxford region. This beautiful green belt is the tributary to the Hacking River, and residents and conservationists alike have battled large-scale developers for years to save this last wildlife corridor that is essential to the future and biodiversity of the surrounding National Parks and State Conservation areas.

Greg Petty says there are ways to facilitate the movement of native animals in this situation. "You have to wonder why Minister Campbell did not explore these!"

While Mr O'Farrell has publicly announced that the virgin bushland site will be made a National Park and mining of coal will cease, he has not ruled out gas mining and in fact proclaimed on Sydney radio 2GB that the "future is gas".

Mr Petty, who co-ordinated the first community group Planning Proposal and achieved a record breaking 18,200 e-submissions to Wollongong City Council on 7d land review says "I have now called on Mr. O'Farrell to be transparent and answer these concerns immediately and rule out all mining **at any depth** under these irreplaceable world famous areas which so many have fought so hard to save".

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Letter to Opposition Leader and other background on the Press Room page of my website

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