

Hon. Gabrielle Upton MP
Minister for the Environment and Heritage

PO Box 5341
Sydney NSW 2000

Monday 28 August 2017

Dear Minister Upton

Re: "The Drip Gorge" - Goulburn River, Ulan via Mudgee

The members of Mudgee District Environment Group wish to express their concerns over the delay in the transfers of land in and around The Great Dripping Wall.

We are referring to two parcels of land:

One is the strip of land that is Crown Land covering the visitor infrastructure area and walking track. This is currently managed under licence by the National Parks and Wild Life Service of NSW.

The second is the land currently under the ownership of Moorlarben Coal Operations surrounding The Drip and on both sides of the river. The deed of agreement gave them a period of 2 years to complete the transfer to a State Conservation Area by March 2017. This process seems to have stalled.

We would like to respectfully bring this to your attention and request that these matters be resolved before the end of September.

It is commendable that the NSW Government has made a commitment to long term public management which will ensure the maintenance of public access and preservation of The Drip Gorge and its Great Dripping Wall. The land in question is of critical importance for the protection and public access to The Drip Gorge and adjacent riparian corridor.

The community's hope is that the transfers be finalised and that all the lands be securely under the management of National Parks to coincide with the state wide 50th year Celebrations of the National Parks and Wild Life Service on the 8th of October 2017.

The Save the Drip action group is planning a public meeting at The Drip on this date and it is our hope we will have a representative from your Department attend to announce the good news that the transfers have been completed. This would be the final piece to the important environmental achievement of the NSW Government securing The Great Dripping Wall for future generations to enjoy.

Yours Truly



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