



# THE ENTRANCE PENINSULA

## COMMUNITY PRECINCT

ENCOMPASSING: THE ENTRANCE; THE ENTRANCE NORTH; LONG JETTY TOOWOON BAY; BLUE BAY & SHELLY BEACH

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15 April 2011

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**SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR THE GRANT OF A PACKAGED LIQUOR LICENCE  
AT 447 THE ENTRANCE ROAD, LONG JETTY AND TO BE KNOWN AS  
BWS - BEER WINE SPIRITS.**

**REFERENCE:** Your letter dated 1 April 2011, Reference: TS:TP:21814

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your notice of application to the NSW Casino Liquor and Gaming Control Authority (the Authority) for the granting of a liquor licence on behalf of Woolworths for the subject property. The Entrance Peninsula Community Precinct (TEPCP) is aware that the Authority has specific requirements which include the preparation of a Community Impact Statement (CIS) to permit the Authority to assess the appropriateness of the Licence at the proposed premises. Our community strongly objects to the granting of additional liquor licences in The Entrance Peninsula area.

Wyong Shire Council has also informed TEPCP of the Woolworths Development Application and TEPCP made a submission opposing the granting of approval of the proposed DA.

TEPCP has researched the impact of retail liquor outlets and the evidence has led us to the conclusion that that the overall social impact of such outlets would be detrimental to the well-being of our local and broader communities. We believe that the proposal raised many important issues and concerns. These include:

- undue disturbance to the neighbourhood of the proposed licensed premises caused by the operation of the premises and/or the conduct of patrons;
- alcohol-related anti-social behaviour or crime;
- alcohol-related hospitalisations and health problems;
- increase in pedestrian and motor traffic numbers;
- drink driving and drink walking; The Entrance Peninsula is an Alcohol Free Zone.
- increase in domestic violence associated with alcohol consumption; and
- litter, including broken glass, and other pollution associated with the operation of the premises.

Of particular concern is the proven link between an increase in the number of liquor outlets and an increase in domestic violence. Research from the National Drug Research Institute (NDRI) at Curtin University in Perth (2007), that examined the effect of liquor licence approvals on alcohol related problems confirmed that an increase in the number of liquor outlets (hotels and/or bottle shops) is associated with an increase in alcohol-related violence and assault in the surrounding area. An unexpected finding, however, is that, regardless of the type of new liquor outlet, most of this increased violence occurs in private homes rather than at licensed premises.

On 20 July, 2010, the Tuggerah Lakes Local Area Command's ( LAC ) Crime Prevention Officer, Senior Constable Murray Alcock informed The Entrance Peninsula community, at our general meeting, that Tuggerah Lakes LAC is number two in the State when it comes to domestic violence. One need only read local, state and national newspapers to realise this grim state of affairs in our local area.

You may be aware that NDRI researchers have created a model that can predict the likely affect on alcohol-related assaults, hospitalisations, deaths and road crashes, of granting a new liquor licence anywhere in Australia. In the report (2008) Dr Chikritzhs states, *"The model developed in this study allows us, for the first time, to predict the social impacts of any new liquor outlet anywhere in Australia. Liquor licensing authorities should be obliged to consider these impacts when deciding whether to grant a new licence."*

Further, Chief Investigator Dr Tanya Chikritzhs (pronounced Sik-rit-sees) said the research demonstrated that the decisions of liquor licensing authorities had a significant impact on the health and safety of communities. Because of the proven link between an increase in the number of liquor outlets and an increase in the alcohol-related violence and assaults in the surrounding area, TEPCP has requested, in a letter to Wyong Shire Council, that this development application not be approved and at the very least, prior to further consideration of the application, Council require BWS to pay for a NDRI study to justify their proposal.

Given that there is substantial evidence of the negative social impacts of retail liquor outlets on the community, and that there are already at least 8 retail outlets within a 3 kilometre radius of the proposed new outlet, The Entrance Peninsula Community Precinct wishes to lodge a strong protest to the granting of the Liquor Licence at 447 The Entrance Road, Long Jetty.

Yours Sincerely



Douglas Darlington

Secretary

The Entrance Community Precinct Committee

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