

## **PAST COAL AND THE BLUE MILE COAST TOWARDS AN ECO-CITY IN WOLLONGONG: AN OPEN SUBMISSION FROM HI-TECH CONSULTING**

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### **1. ECO-DEVELOPMENT REQUIRES MORE OPEN REGIONAL PLANNING: SOME KEY WOLLONGONG ECO-DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS AND THE NEW GLOBAL CONTEXT FOR RECOMMENDED DIRECTION AND ACTION**

This is an open approach to seek the development of Wollongong as an Eco-City, made by Hi-Tech consulting to others. It follows the Wollongong City Council (WCC) consent outlined below in the Community Engagement Report on the WCC Blue Mile Vision, in response to our earlier Hi-Tech Consulting Pty Ltd submission to Council.

#### **Hi-Tech Consulting Pty Ltd:**

- Recommend that Council work with the Commonwealth Government to support eco-friendly development on the foreshore precinct
- The plan needs to consider environmental protection or ecological sustainability, or vital sustainable development
- Propose the possibility of establishing an historical wharf and ecologically friendly ferry service as part of Belmore Basin re-development forward direction

(WCC 2008, Attachment 2, p. 239) Some specific projects are discussed broadly later.

According to the Commonwealth government draft 'Australia's Native Vegetation Framework', the UN Convention on Biological Diversity describes the '*ecosystem*' approach as 'a strategy for the integrated management of *land, water and living resources* that promotes conservation and sustainable use in an equitable way'.

The Convention gave better direction than the Australian draft. Where is the latter now?

One later discusses and supports the planned development directions recommended by Eadie and Hoisington in 'Stocking Up: Securing our marine economy' (2011) for the Centre for Policy Development at Sydney University. The former works at the Centre and the latter is at the University of Wollongong and is also a visiting fellow at the Sydney Institute of Marine Sciences. However, one sharply rejects their confusing concept of '*eco-system services*' and their measurement. This is a speculative number which becomes a trading price. It seems like a claim for state support for over-fishing. The concepts of a system and an eco-system are discussed in many related contexts later.

To be globally true to the indigenous Australian heritage, and to avoid huge loss of species and related cultural diversity and choice by current and future generations, eco-development at Wollongong appears most reasonably driven first by the main goals of the 'whole-of-ecosystem' approach to development of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity. These goals are:

- Maintain viable populations of all native species in situ
- Represent, within protected areas, all native ecosystem types across their natural range of variation
- Maintain evolutionary and ecological processes
- Manage over periods of time long enough to maintain the evolutionary potential of species
- ***Accommodate human use and occupancy within these constraints***  
(Our emphasis)

The Wollongong Council began its eco-development direction with the Blue Mile Vision along the coast and free bus to Wollongong University. This connects conveniently and often with the Wollongong town centre, and with the train from Sydney, so is very well used. Thus many unnecessary cars are also conveniently taken off the road. Blue vision ideally begins with focus on coastal and other water, native vegetation and related parks.

Key projects related to eco-development in Wollongong are addressed later in this context. A danger to be avoided is that new building commences without a proper understanding about the Australian marine eco-park and related vegetation needs first, in sea and on land. Think globally to act locally or end in a lot of concrete and pretence in Wollongong, native or not. We need practical and clearer theoretical understanding of the marine and land species. Who will provide it? Where in the sea will they work?

The ‘Outcomes Report of the Illawarra Eco-Tourism Workshop’, sponsored by the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council and the Illawarra Eco Tourism Association states these organizations have ‘*developed an inclusive visioning/dreaming eco tourism model that extends across the Local Government Areas of Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama*’. One assumes the new Indigenous Carbon Farming Fund should operate using reasonably consistent principles for working on land, in water or in air, including in research, with clear goals related to quality of life. The treatment of Belmore Basin (Wollongong Harbour), ferries and eco-tourism is ideally constructed in this environment. Some key project choice and measurement issues are addressed later.

Given the comparatively long history of Wollongong in mining and manufacture, energy and waste management naturally appear an ideal aspect of the Australian Government Clean Energy Future Plan. The Hi-Tech proposal briefly discusses the opportunity for a solar ferry later. However, as Jac Nasser, BHP Billiton Chairman, stated in ‘BHP demands staged carbon tax’:

We happen to be the country with the most options around an energy mix....yet we have the most narrow sources of energy output.....So I think almost anything we do from where we are will be a positive and we should start to make these incremental steps.....  
..... We don’t want to get in the trap of really believing our policy is going to influence other countries. **We’ve got to do what is right for us.** (Our emphasis)  
(Australian Financial Review (AFR) 10.4.2011, p. 4)

One assumes this is also true for many different approaches to home and regional development in areas besides energy and transport. One notes University of Wollongong (UOW) and TAFE Illawarra students will demonstrate their net-zero energy, solar powered house, designed by the group, at the 2013 Solar Decathlon at Datong China. Related construction, education, eco-tourism and other service issues are addressed later. Brian Dooley, Manager Southern Projects, in the Department of Primary Industries, Catchments and Lands, reveals a plan for new toilets in his letter about Belmore Basin discussed later. The next toilet building in Wollongong should be greener than the last.

However, 'Stocking Up' defines *ecosystem services*, as '*the non-market benefits we derive from nature*'. This easily suggests humans are in a trading relationship with nature and the latter accordingly will serve us in many untapped ways which can and should be given a value, purely as price. (Take back, the mink, take back the pearls, etc. etc.) To see untapped nature as providing services to people is anthropomorphic, confused and confusing. It encourages a view that 'invisible hands' of markets have nobody attached and may be reduced to price. Nasty men led us in this direction. Take us out instead.

'Stocking Up' states that Australia's oceans provide a wide range of values, worth over \$69 billion per year' (p.7), which is apparently the estimated value provided by Australia's Marine Estate which combines market and non-market values (p. 11). Under a heading entitled 'The true value of healthy oceans is revealed through ecosystem services' the authors claim that 'eco-system services' is a useful concept to make the non-market benefits we derive from nature more explicit' (p. 12). In practice the authors have done the exact opposite of making market and non market benefits more explicit, as they have conflated these benefits and reduced them to an apparently common numerical value - price. This approach appears to be driven by market cunning that is most prudently thought of as sophisticated mainly in its confusing intent. This may also be thought of as charmed knowledge to its apparently related professional beneficiaries.

At the 1994 Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit, national leaders agreed to create an Asia-Pacific free trade zone by 2020, and to protect health and the natural environment. Ideally, regional environments are now examined to identify and manage key risks to community and environment wellbeing, which are economic, social and environmental. Overfishing and climate change are two of many risks to human and environment health, addressed later in Wollongong and beyond. These risks are ideally managed through stable, coordinated and effective models of work, insurance and investment, such as those being pioneered in Australian health and insurance, discussed later. Protection and growth of threatened native species and habitat are part of health.

Lord Mayor of Sydney, Clover Moore, held an informative community consultation with maps entitled 'Connecting and Improving Your Local Parklands' in December 2012. We need many regionally planned and openly related funding and operational approaches to water, land, endangered species, heritage conservation, food and energy production and related services, manufacture, waste and trade. Such regionally coordinated approaches ideally guarantee support for protection and development of scarce natural resources the

market values badly. Put parks and related breeding and planting first to design effectively around what made us who we are, to protect and explain to future generations.

Concerns about measurement of actions to protect land, water and biodiversity are considered later. Only human beings respect human borders and some also ignore them. One assumes that if 42% of sea fisheries remain in an over-fished or unknown state, as 'Stocking Up' claims, commercial fishermen encouraged to leave over-fished areas might be offered eco-development and investment opportunities and/or research/education related work in other areas soon for best results. One guesses the knowledge and skills of fishermen and fish breeders are scarce but likely to be orally related and very good to pass on in film and teaching. Eco-tourism is ideally coordinated better with services and manufacturing to provide more effective support for eco-development, as discussed later. What is taught in the Graduate Certificate in Ecologically Sustainable Development and similar areas of work and certification? Ask those who teach to step up for show and tell so that Wollongong can begin to develop and relate practice and theory better for trade.

This Hi-Tech proposal on eco-development is prepared for the attention, among others, of Gillian Broadbent, CEO of the Clean Energy Finance Corporation. One wonders how she sees her role and that of the organization. This is centrally related to all future Wollongong aims, services or manufacturing practices and outcome measurements. Related discussion of the definition and measurement of ecosystem services is pursued later. It seems an unhelpful concept. One notes Government commitment of \$12 million for creation of a Centre for Workplace Leadership and asks 'Is this for yet another giant comparatively empty public or private building?' If so, how is this eco-development as distinct from what might be euphemistically thought of as promised trickle down effect?

The Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population and Communities has opened applications for the new Indigenous Carbon Farming Fund for feasibility and assessment and for business project development. It is vital to clarify eco-development direction in Wollongong as bureaucrats must know the vision of indigenous people. That is the way they also learn, to help people, rather than conceptualising themselves as operating a veto. Development of the marine and land environment is proposed and questioned specifically later. Tax is addressed in related service and industry contexts.

On 20.11.12 PM Julia Gillard joined leaders from the ten ASEAN Members States and China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea and New Zealand to launch Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership negotiations. An open submission was made at the invitation of the Free Trade Agreements Division of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, which seeks 'to provide a basis for more open trade and investment in the region'. One pointed out the new Asian Vision of security suggests Australian defense forces should work with others to set up more protective development directions, in the interests of Australians and many others. Wollongong eco-development should help this. The main alternative development direction, based on markets and systems theory, is likely to be more globally destructive in future, as it has been in depression or war to meet the necessity of market expansion, or see the controlling power fade.

The global policy discussion of security ideally addresses the implementation of more broadly based planning for arms reduction and for better technology production and use by armed forces and related emergency, community and development services, to promote the ideal Asian Century Vision of Security and Eco-development in Wollongong and beyond. The Chinese Peoples Liberation Army came from, led and assisted peasants.

Nobel Prize winning economist, Amartya Sen, strongly supported former Japanese PM, Obuchi Keizo's discussion on building Asia's tomorrow in an address to the Asian Crisis and Human Security Conference in 1999. The Japanese Prime Minister spoke of the vital aim of 'human security' and the related values of creativity and dignity. Sen stated, 'Human security' is 'the keyword to comprehensively seizing all menaces that threaten the survival, daily life, and dignity of human beings, and on strengthening the efforts to confront these threats'. He argued support for the poor, freedom of speech and transparent management are essentials for effective operation of the market and equality.

This contrasts with old notions of national security and defense, which centre on spying or how to fight potential aggression with bribes or related jobs and action, including violence, rather than communicating broadly to prevent the power of secret force, as is democratic. This depends on open dealing and effective community and communication building. This is a management area where Australia is likely to be able to compete well and offer Intrepid Travel services as an example of an Australian arm potentially able to assist Australian eco-development and related manufacturing production in future.

Eco-development appears most likely to occur in more broadly open, honest and satisfying speech, work, education and entertainment arenas, rather than in top secret diplomacy, bribes and lying politeness which condemns the critic to encourage charm and secret ways to make a killing. One is naturally guided by Moshe Dayan's statement that, 'If we wish to make war we talk to our friends. If we wish to make peace we talk to our enemies'. As every lover knows, it may be a lying insult to be polite, an indication of superior forces, flaunted in a child's face. Rude truth is a necessary part of growing up. It is the emotional search for knowledge, and emotion may be denied at huge public cost.

Fishing and the security of the marine environment, which may also include oil or many other valuables, are global issues to which Australian development is ideally related, including in Wollongong. In the Sydney Morning Herald, Senior Colonel Liu Minfu, of China's National Defense University is quoted as saying he blamed US 'orchestration' and Japan's 'militarism' for rising tensions over disputed islands known as the Senkaku in Japan and the Diaoyu in China (SMH 23.1.12, p.23). Garnaut reports him as saying:

America is the global tiger and Japan is Asia's wolf and both are now madly biting China. Of all animals Chinese people hate the wolf the most. China was a peaceful nation but it would fight to the death if seriously attacked. If this Japanese wolf again attacks America's Pearl Harbour or Australia's Darwin, how do you know it wouldn't receive another nuclear bomb? The world would hail if Japan receives such a blow. I don't want to mention China here, as it is sensitive.

Recently one saw from PBS Newshour on SBS TV that Stanley McChrystal, the US general who led troops in Afghanistan and then resigned after an interview with 'Rolling Stone', is now at Yale. Discuss planned eco-direction with Liu Minfu, him and others openly as soon as possible. Urge the Australian PM to take related issues to the Security Council because the forces of government need to be more effectively and openly joined to support their populations, rather than to kill them or to see them being killed. This Wollongong discussion is naturally aimed at the larger global direction and based on it.

The work of Pavan Sukhdev, the Indian banker and environmental economist from Yale, who is also Goodwill Ambassador for the UN Environment Program, is addressed later and seen as failing business as usual. His appears a comparatively high regulation, expensive, professionally driven, dysfunctional approach. Strangely, 'Stocking Up' ignores or rejects the regulatory direction recommended by his book 'Corporation 2020: Transforming Business for Tomorrow's World' (2012). The Centre publicly appeared highly supportive of him earlier and Australia has already taken his recommended pollution pricing direction, albeit in a sensibly limited way, in a carbon tax.

The specific eco-proposals based on our earlier Hi-Tech submission are discussed later after a strategic discussion of Australia's place in the world and before related regional discussions of price, health, work, eco-tourism, education and research, supported by communications. (This is a plan, Stan.). We hope you like it and wonder if this is the only game in town. Who are others? Let us discuss our common directions openly for best effect in the public interest, rather than operate secretly to shoot someone in the foot. Don't be too polite, girls. The others need to get the picture. They need to understand it.

## **2. THE IDEAL HISTORICAL, GEOGRAPHIC AND HEALTH RELATED CONTEXTS FOR OPENLY PLANNED AND SHARED ECO-DEVELOPMENT**

Australia faces some of the problems described in Kemal H. Karpat's 'Elites and Religion from Ottoman Empire to Turkish Republic' (2010). Karpat argues the main problem for Turkey lies in being historically dominated by statist elites, but that demand is fast growing for a more service oriented bureaucracy, capable of coping with the needs of a market oriented economy. On the other hand, both nations appear to have gradually acted upon the increasing global democratic imperative of sharing land and water with others wishing to work and live better. This is a global context in which plans with many non-profit and Sharia investment forms are ideally considered in openly related contexts of eco-development in Wollongong and beyond. Consider population in shared contexts.

A new global direction emerged in embryo after men's atrocities in World War II, and is clearly reflected in the UN Declaration of Human Rights, in World Health Organization (WHO) conventions and in related development directions such as the UN Declaration on Environment and Development, which many nations, including Australia, have adopted. Article 1 of the latter declaration puts human health at the centre of concern for sustainable development and claims humans are entitled to a healthy and productive life in harmony with nature. The World Commission on Environment and Development

defined sustainable development as ‘development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs’.

The goals of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity are similarly revolutionary in challenging the historically dominant Western view that man ideally maximises his economic interests, which stand for those of all others, as this will best lead to the good of all, including future generations. Repeated global financial crises, increasing social inequalities and loss of many plant and animal numbers and species shows many related economic assumptions about markets benignly clearing can be nasty instead. Western law has feudal origins which also largely still assume all value is truly reflected in the market price of any commodity, and which also protects secrecy in commercial operations. As a result, global trading has once more led in the direction of perfect ignorance rather than perfect information, before the crash in 2008, then business as usual. Considerable economic and social crisis has again resulted. From this more modern and democratic perspective, one wonders who gave all the usual evil bastards permission for atomic and H bomb testing in the Asia Pacific, etc. after World War II.

An earlier submission, entitled ‘Plan trade to protect internationally endangered species first’, responded to the Productivity Commission (PC) draft research report on Bilateral and Regional Trade Agreements (2010). The ideal aims of trade should be to improve the quality of life for current and future generations. This depends on the quality of the social and natural environment, as well as on increased economic gain and its distribution. The best way forward to sustainable development and to related improvements in trade is for all regions to plan their continuing competitive development by situating the land, water or air most affected by any current and proposed development in the context of the primary need to protect internationally and nationally endangered species. This is also an eco-development approach. The responsibility for the planned protection of many endangered species is ideally taken up globally as well as regionally.

The current submission follows those attached, which argued regional land, water and air quality should be managed more openly and broadly as shared concerns, in keeping with more democratic than feudal relations. The latter are often collegiate today and also depend on multiple sectional interests and forces operating secretly, outside narrowly defined adversarial state and court practices controlled by lawyers. This supports even more secret operations, which encourage confusion, corruption, cost and lack of historical interest in the consequences of action. This market (professional) culture hinders more open, informed, fair, cheap, effective, eco-development in the service of current and future generations. One often loves or hates the US most, as its media and colleges drive all before them, assisted by mass advertising of the products they sell, label and are harmed by most – sugar, fat, drugs, guns, cars, financial products or other entertainment.

In a more democratic service provision context, in which development is ideally planned and driven openly, with clearer accountability, on regional, industrial and community bases, rather than closed and driven professionally or organisationally, one notes the first purpose of the Local Government Act 1993:

- To provide the legal framework for an effective, efficient, environmentally responsible and open system of local government in NSW

The single dot point is perhaps all we need but lawyers gave everybody a lot more and intend to do so in future. This feudal non-service may add a lot to project delay and cost without providing any sensible learning process which can be put directly into operation. Law is narrow, often without clear aims, definitions, or any interest in the related after-effects outside the court of any particular decision. Ideally, development standards and legislation question and answer each other more openly in many regional arenas, to move to more broadly democratic and effective operations, where money may not be taken as the only object, and court is not treated as if dispensing the reified Word of God, however secret, incomprehensible, expensive, stupid or confusing. We seek honest language. Websites should provide operational direction. Like law, this should be available free.

The NSW Government Green Paper (July 2012), 'A new planning system for NSW' states there is a lack of confidence in the current planning system and fundamental reform is needed to reduce complexity, costs and delays and to improve transparency in decision making (p. 13). The Green Paper is vague about how activities are expected to proceed on the ground in real life, as distinct from in ideal planning or other theoretical operations. (Aren't we all.) However, it states strategic planning will be the cornerstone of all planning decisions and they will be prepared collaboratively with local councils and approved by the whole of government (p. 27). UOW and other university, technical and further education are ideally addressed in related communication, work, study and eco-tourism contexts, considered later. Ideally one addresses water and vegetation broadly, in related international and national geographic as well as local contexts, considered later.

In 1998, Wollongong City Council, with others, developed an Illawarra Sustainability Roadmap with the following view of what sustainability means to the Illawarra Councils:

Sustainability involves maintaining and enhancing our quality of life, for both current and future generations, through a balance of economic viability, environmental conservation and restoration, and community wellbeing. For Council, this is working collaboratively and creatively to better integrate short and long-term economic, social and environmental considerations into all decision-making within Council operations and services. It involves demonstrating leadership and accountability to our diverse community.

This provides a statement of general purpose against which proposed directions, project aims, performance, related decisions and outcomes may be openly judged and even measured. It is an eco-development approach, which requires triple bottom line accounting to support work to achieve social and environmental goals which may not usefully be reduced purely to price. The recording of action and written evaluation is a related democratic alternative many newspapers, TV and radio ideally report on well.

Democracy is a farce without broad, clear and honest reporting and debate of events, which includes causes and effects. Australia has the best English language, multicultural

and indigenous TV I have seen. To go to Africa is also to see how vital good newspapers and radio are for holding people together. Do not kill good newspapers. Use them in democratic and effective communication. The inquiry model of democratic development Australia uses should be built on as it is more relevant to the process of eco-development than the academic and his silly little closed but very expensive journal. The US is less a democracy than a place where opinion is bought and lies pushed hard. Apologies to PBS Newshour. We learn daily in horror. Work with them, Al Jazeera and others. Open up.

WWF Australia suggested many activities to reduce Australian greenhouse gas emissions by a third by 2030 in 'A Prosperous Low Carbon Future' (2006). At the time, Macquarie University organized a talk entitled 'Removing Market Distortions to Promote Sustainable Development' by former OECD economist, Philippe Barde. He stated that, from his European perspective, the only sensible use of government funding to support sustainable development was:

Funding to promote more environmentally friendly production  
Funding to assist people out of polluting industries

Such protective activities by government have a history. A major question now is how government and community expectations may best be married to the traditional trading systems in order to reduce global emissions better. Trust depends on openness. Respect cannot be commanded or bought, only lied about. Is being in any family any different?

One has little idea how operations at council or community level are joined with the state in practice, as distinct from theory, in regard to eco-development at Wollongong and beyond. However, many contributors to the Legislative Council Standing Committee on State Development report, 'New South Wales Planning Framework (December 2009)' noted the Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979 (EP&A Act) was groundbreaking in having the objects of an openly consultative and integrated understanding of relevant environmental, social and economic issues when making land use planning decisions. The central aim is that social, environmental and economic goals should be logically linked in regional planning direction and decision making. Direction is ideally tested and developed openly in practice, not in secret and confused by many lawyers and related professions writing new versions of many narrowly pre-scientific approaches to regulation that we have often paid for before and perhaps never seen again.

In 'A History of New South Wales (NSW), Kingston notes the availability of coal within an easy distance of Sydney has had a huge impact on the kind of industrial development occurring in NSW, especially in and near Wollongong in the Illawarra region, as well as at Newcastle and Lithgow since the late 1860s (2006, p. 67). During and after World War II manufacturing grew in and around Wollongong related to the development and expansion of new steelworks and associated activities in and around Port Kembla. This is the earlier coastal development context in which key proposals related to eco-system development are now put forward. Hagan and Wells have edited 'A history of Wollongong' (1997). This is a vital help to gain the broader cultural understanding also necessary for effective reversal of the carbon pollution which historically has been an

unintended outcome of the great wealth Wollongong and its related global producers created for investors, Australians and the region. Why would one dig up any polluted ground? Would this not normally create more health and safety problems than it solves? Where does waste go? Why not turn waste land to park with eco-development instead?

To protect each other globally and locally we need to conceptualize management more in openly shared, comparatively flexible, zones, rather than in special economic zones, whether in mining, gardening, fishing, manufacture etc. We need more small business and voluntary niche adjuncts to major economies of scale made possible in nationally or regionally planned projects and contexts in which work is also conducted in cooperation with other regional business and community interests. Standards, dispute resolution, levies, premiums, taxes and related matters of business communication and direction are ideally constructed in comparatively open regional industry and community contexts. The Australian way forward through putting health first is discussed in this broader arena.

The former Australian PM, Kevin Rudd, listed the following challenges for the future:

- Delivering an education revolution to build the skills that Australia will need as the economy recovers
- Ensuring that every Australian can get the health care they need when and where they need it
- Building a lower carbon economy and creating the low pollution jobs of the future
- Securing water supplies for our cities, towns and farmers, and acting to restore the health of our rivers; and
- Implementing a new way of governing that is more open, accountable and in touch with the community

This submission seeks effective continuation of the vision. In a speech entitled ‘Abandon left and right for a vision to unite, he discussed an Australian 20/20 vision to ‘unleash the national imagination from beyond the ranks of politics and the public service’ and ‘to help fashion a national consensus around a common vision for the nation, with common goals to aim for within that vision’ (smh.com.au, 17.4.08). After that, Australia rapidly expanded free to air TV, including both government run stations of the ABC and the SBS (which is multicultural) and commercial stations. NI TV is the indigenous broadcaster. Many related service and manufacturing work directions are ideally planned with related public and democratic benefits and opportunities often trashed in professional markets.

Australian and other national park, zoo and related services should help each other with many commonly protective directions. These matters are ideally discussed and tackled in relation to new concepts of security in the Asian century, to gain more protective global direction than is possible through the huge traffic in guns, transports and invitations to kill or further endanger the native or imported species, humans or heritage. Australian measurement direction for fish and water protection is wrong. Clarify it in Wollongong.

### **3. CONFUSION REIGNS SO CLARITY IS NECESSARY ON HOW MARINE AND RELATED PARKS AND VEGETATION ARE IDEALLY TREATED**

The planned approach in 'Stocking Up: Securing our marine economy' is described and accepted later. However, its approach to defining and measuring '*eco-system services*,' which reduces all untapped marine natural resources to a highly dubious and confusing price, has a high environmental risk, which should not also be reduced to price. Without more open planning and control to secure social and environmental goals, price based development usually fails the poorest people and the survival and habitat of native species, in comparative terms, globally and regionally. Collier's 'The Bottom Billion' (2008) and Moyo's 'Dead Aid' (2010) show why democracy does not work if politicians and votes are easily bought to privilege the ruling families and provide comfortable jobs for supporters. Unless affairs are managed and debated openly, to educate us all, one man's corruption may easily be seen as another man's legitimate concern for his affairs. Was David Coe corrupt? How does a man lose \$1 billion but start up again in sport, etc. as if still rich? The normal person must know this to try to protect their investments.

The management and measurement direction in 'Stocking Up: cannot implement the views of 142 scientists outlined in a letter to the Prime Minister and Opposition Leader, as it equates price with fish. (One cannot eat a price but one can eat a fish. We think similarly about land and housing. I rest my case in the global village.) Anyhow, the scientists said:

The marine environment faces five general threats: climate change and ocean acidification resulting from rising CO2 levels, overfishing, habitat damage, pollution, and the effects of alien organisms. On the global scene, modern fishing activities constitute the most important threat to marine biodiversity at the present time.....while area protection clearly cannot be effective against all threats (e.g. ocean acidification) it can provide protection from important threats such as fishing and habitat damage (p. 32).

Over-fishing is considered the most important threat for treatment, which is reflected in the 'Stocking Up' goals and strategies which are discussed later in recognition that Wollongong eco-development is ideally based soundly on this direction. Distinctions between the concepts of **ecosystems** and **eco-development** are ideally conceptualised and understood in broader regional, openly shared and explained practical management.

However, 'Stocking Up' and also Quentin Grafton, Professor of Economics at the Australian National University, ANU-UNESCO Chair holder in Water Economics and Transboundary Water Governance and Director for the Centre for Water Economics, Environment and Policy, appear in agreement about the need to price untapped natural resources. This appears impossible scientifically, especially in mining. The AFR (8.7.2011, p. 48) stated Grafton would also become the government 'first chief economist' in a new 'professionally independent' agency within the Department of Resources, Energy and Tourism. Lack of helpful measurement and clear operational consensus appears likely to have many unintended expensive consequences. Avoid it.

Risk management may also be discussed in multiple confusing, expensive, research contexts. One recalls the booklet 'Climate Change Impacts and Risk Management: Guide for Business and Government', produced by the former Australian Greenhouse Office, and widely available in Wollongong in 2008. This required employers to measure the impact of different climate change scenarios on various aspects of their businesses. (How crazy is that?) This is yet another complex regulatory approach, quite unlike 'Stocking Up', Sukhdev, or Grafton, which is confusing, costly and speculative.

At the time of comment on the above guide, one pointed out the Australian and New Zealand Standard for Risk Management (AS/NZS 4360:1999) is preferable to (AS/NZS 4360:2004). The latter moves back to price domination which operates to ignore social and environmental outcomes of practice undertaken by humans, as distinct from the invisible market hands. In the earlier standard version, the business ideally identifies risks of its operation on workers, the environment, consumers or related communities to try to prioritize and reduce these risks. This is consistent with the management approach required under occupational health and safety acts. It requires a broadly coordinated, place, work and person based management approach. This is an institutional approach like that of JK Galbraith (remember him?) who interpreted Keynes more clearly for new generations. It is potentially more consistent with reality than feudal professional drive.

Men like Nassim Nicholas Taleb, famous for risk management at New York Uni., are typical of the normal pricing focus, in markets conveniently driven for them by invisible hands. In the article entitled 'Time to drop delusions about risk' (AFR 11.1.13, Review 5) he writes:

While in the past people of rank or status were those and only those who took risks, who had the downside for their actions, and heroes were those who did so for the sake of others, today the exact reverse is taking place.....At no point in history have so many non-risk takers, that is, those with no personal exposure, exerted so much control.

Taleb, like most US academics, wants the world to operate without government intervention, more purely, according to price, which is supposedly set by systemic operations of the market, untouched by human hand other than in price choice. The effect of this view is that only price exists or matters. I guess heroes do what they want.

Sukhdev recommends that government require polluting organizations to measure the noxious unintended consequences of their production on the environment. Like others, he appears to find discussion of land, who owns it or how it is worked upon beneath him. In this context one also wonders what happened to Australia's draft 'Native Vegetation Framework'. This is a national framework 'to guide the ecologically sustainable management of Australia's native vegetation for ecosystem resilience'. At the time of comment on it, one noted *air* was not mentioned and assumed its quality was dealt with in the Kyoto Treaty, and so in the carbon tax and pricing aftermath. Air is ideally addressed in consistent management approaches to land, water and biodiversity.

Sukdhev's recommended direction seems what Australian government requires for air alone, in the case of a thousand large organizations which operate under requirements of the National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting System (NGERS). Organisations must measure their noxious emissions of production as they are let into the atmosphere. As I understand the situation, the Australian government has now levied a related carbon price and tax. The government is also prepared to compensate or deal with the trade exposed organization in regard to changes which must be made to clean up its production or to offset the damage caused in a like remediation of environmental damage elsewhere.

On the other hand, 'Stocking Up' authors appear to wish to give the *untouched natural environment a numerical value instead*, while calling the supposed combined market and non-market value of natural resources 'eco-system services'. This undermines more effectively planned project development and management of shared funds for eco-development at Wollongong. Australian Medicare and related health care and investment schemes and services are better for helping conceptualise and measure eco-development. The struggle to get a National Disability Insurance Scheme began in the early 1970s. A lot of health and fund management understanding has been gained since. Stop losing the plot through so many academic studies by US vested interests posing as neutral science.

The concept of the catch per unit of effort (CPUE), a key measure supposedly used by fishing managers 'to gauge the health of fish populations', appears primarily related to the company bottom line and may serve mainly to encourage technological development to sweep up wider fields of fish more easily and cheaply before the field is quit. More broadly shared responsibility for well selected marine breeding could give many people new meaning in life which is more broadly useful than trying to measure 'eco-system services' or 'virgin biomass' in price. Give up breeding too many expensive kids for the man to carry and breed fish instead. More information in relation to this direction is later.

Australians considered the requirements of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (the Kyoto Protocol) established in 1992 and have seen the causes and effects of the global financial crisis of 2008. A carbon price and related tax have been put in place through the NGERS measurement process. Many related players, in their wisdom, may speculate about entering international carbon trading markets later on, while preferring to start more openly planned and regionally stable approaches to eco-development. This seems a more rational, protective, secure and competitive choice. Test it. Few Australian investors are less informed now than they were before the global financial crisis. This may be thanks more to politicians and media than to confusing financial 'experts'.

'Stocking Up', states the ideal aim is 'To protect the assets that underpin our marine estate'. As they have already defined *the marine estate* as the sum of the estimated market and non-market numerical values related to Australia's oceans, and given these values a combined value of \$69 billion per annum, one wonders what *the assets underpinning our marine estate* are, and how they are valued – are they people? The valuation of people is highly subjective not just because wiping them out is a normal activity related to war production, thus growing gross domestic product and men's jobs. This habit of wishing away ignorant subjectivity by calling it in numbers has been made

more possible by the advent of the computer where anyone with a questionnaire may also turn the results into numbers and call the product science, not secret garbage in and out.

However, 'Stocking Up' direction is expected 'to treat our marine estate as a portfolio of valuable ecological assets' (p. 8), where 'we need to balance our investment portfolio across a well-managed commercial fishing estate; marine protected areas and highly protected areas. Good idea. Where are the geographic spots, so people can go there, or somewhere else, to do protective breeding or otherwise help fish flourish? Who does it?

One supports the planned development approach discussed later to '***Protect the assets that underpin our marine estate***' (pp.8-9). However, 'Stocking Up' claims that to ensure a strong economy and a healthy marine environment, '***we should implement the following five simple measures to provide a buffer against risks and a reserve to support long run opportunities***'. Such *measures* are actually *goals*, which require supporting *actions* which appear far from simple. Assuming markets are natural systems, presumably ruled by invisible hands, leads those who think like that to ignore more basic and practical work, the people who do it, the real effort, and the real outcomes of it. They do this to justify sitting more comfortably, theoretically scheming how to get more money including for more research. In this theoretical world, the builders and how they work naturally appear largely invisible. I guess this is how they all like it, up to a point. Goals and the identification and management of work, risks and funds are discussed later.

In spite of the criticism that the measurement values 'Stocking Up' represents are badly reduced to fanciful prices, which cannot offer protection to vulnerable current and future investors, threatened populations and related native species, one appreciates the comparative clarity of the work. Before it one had almost no idea of how academics or governments are valuing or treating water, as distinct from air, land or related biodiversity. Besides trying to set, administer and police some total allowable catch limits, which is not easy, while encouraging those who wish to do so to leave the over-fished areas to work mainly on eco-breeding, what else, one wonders, should be done to protect the life in Australian oceans and beyond, which can attract tourists and students? As I don't work in the area, I wouldn't have a clue in the real world. How about you?

On reading 'Stocking Up', I understood, for the first time, what Quentin Grafton's presentation 'Towards an understanding of the win-win outcomes from managing systems for their resilience' addressed. The answer is price, also assumed to be fish, which it is not. I heard Quentin Grafton at a research symposium in 2011 called Resilience: Can our Environment keep bouncing back?, at the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at Sydney Uni. I could not understand him or his website. When I ask how he defined a 'system', he said it was 'anything you want it to be'.

One sees now he meant it was any price, in a professionally driven price system. This passes accountability on, away from people like him, through many supposedly natural systemic operations. Additional price may reflect the pretence of greater risk control, which is greater risk instead. Bring investors who will work openly in Wollongong.

The research symposium ‘Resilience: Can our Environment keep bouncing back?’ offered a better planned, clearer way forward, discussed later. The resilience of an environment is ideally judged in the context of prior direction to achieve the broader ideal aims for that environment, which ideally drives many open public, private, voluntary partnerships to achieve environmental, social and economic goals. The management goals for any natural environment need to be clearly understood before ‘resilience’, defined as ‘how easily the system bounces back’, can be effectively studied or achieved.

‘Stocking Up’ direction gives clear and useful, albeit very scanty, information to guide work practice which is addressed after discussion of the key eco-tourism proposals. In the sea, as upon land, the protection of scarce natural resources to enhance the knowledge, welfare and related enjoyment of current and future generations appears ideally to start naturally, with the development of work to protect and extend fish breeding and related vegetation and food chains in related park environments. How are people prevented now from catching fish in eco-parks – by recreational fishers? No idea.

In this planned context, ‘Stocking Up’ appears one of many veiled and thus high risk perceptions of the Australian ‘**marine economy**’, including the ‘**eco-system services**’, ‘**our marine estate**, and ‘**the assets that underpin our marine estate**’. Give us clarity on (1) **what** these **supposed assets** are. (2) How they are ideally to be **treated** (3) What such **treatments** are supposedly worth in price terms, to the markets and others, with clearer justification. One favours instead a conceptual approach more like the service approach introduced in Australian health care with Casemix. This relates most patient treatment and service throughput to research to improve patient outcomes, ideally in the particular case and unique environment of the individual client. This is later addressed in regional planning contexts which humans may inhabit rurally or in related big cities. This approach views men as part of nature, with choice, not as our automatic overlords.

#### **4. PROJECT PROPOSALS FOR ECO-DEVELOPMENT IN WOLLONGONG**

**The Grand Regional Park and ‘blue carbon system’ directions** proposed by Anton Dominis of Hi-Tech Consulting and referred to in the article ‘A new vision for Eco-City Wollongong’, was based primarily on protection of life in the sea. These directions are broadly supported first, along with related proposals for Illawarra Foreshores Regional Parkland and supporting eco-development proposals from the Illawarra Eco-Tourism Workshop. These are addressed further in the attached. Dominis writes:

If a quality grand regional park is to be built in the Illawarra region, it would be a significant blue-carbon sink and a vital ecosystem for a myriad of coastal life forms. It would help meet the Australian-Kyoto Protocol requirements. In conjunction with that, it would enhance Wollongong’s image and attract visitors and who would subsequently complement Illawarra’s economy. Furthermore the Wollongong Council and associated businesses will recoup their outlays by means of sustainable and permanent Eco-tourism. To sum up, Illawarra’s grand enterprise should be viewed as a regional asset and not as a liability (2012, p. 5)

Key requirements of the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, the Ramsar Convention on wetlands, and the Convention on Migratory Species are ideally discussed in related contexts. Dominis points out relevant bilateral agreements with Japan, China, the Republic of Korea and through the recently launched East Asian – Australian Flyway Partnership require related action.

The eco-development direction of Wollongong City Council, the Illawarra Land Council, the Illawarra Eco-Tourism Association, Hi-Tech Consulting and others is discussed in relation to openly shared project development to achieve eco-tourism, as also outlined later in a report on the outcomes of the Illawarra Eco Tourism Workshop. One wonders where the treatment of the sea is in this planning, not least because everybody loves the view. The planned direction in ‘Stocking Up’ is ideally supported by openly shared project management approaches which naturally interact with cross zone representatives.

Where are fish caught and bred ideally and in reality? How is this policed or evaluated ideally and in reality? One wonders who best knows the answers to these questions for the Australian coast, but especially for the Illawarra. This preferably in-situ and on site knowledge now appears a vitally necessary start for Wollongong public/private/voluntary partnerships. These are ideally designed openly to serve the contracting Australians and others needs for stability and variation in healthier life menus, including in a focus on early life and death. Related feudal and modern concepts of security are addressed in the attached discussion of Australian and related trading interests in the Asian Century.

In this context, one notes the clear and helpful letter from Brian Dooley, Manager of Southern Projects, Department of Primary Industries, Catchments and Lands to Wendy Todd in Siteplus, Wollongong (DOC12/034232 File 12/0185) seeking development proposals for Belmore Basin, (i.e. Wollongong Harbour) by Dec. 2012. Wollongong Harbour is on the NSW Heritage Register so a formal approval is required from the Heritage Council (Section 60 Application). This will be made by the Department.

**A related submission was made by the Architects Borst and Conacher (23.11.12) entitled ‘Belmore Basin (Wollongong Harbour) Upgrade. It proposes a Wollongong Ferry Terminus for Belmore Basin Development and ‘a Fisherman’s wharf type development in the vicinity of the former Tee Jetty and slipway’.** The proposal states:

*‘The design which takes into consideration existing heritage items, established view lines, development control measures and the harbour’s history, shall incorporate features to reflect design practices for sustainability such as the reuse of building materials (i.e. recycle) on site power generation (e.g. solar power and methane gas) water collection (e.g. water tanks) and energy efficiency principles (e.g. natural light, solar electricity, cross ventilation) to provide a building with a low carbon footprint.*

*Upon completion of the project the Belmore Basin precinct will be presented with a development to showcase the best of environmentally design principles and which will further capture the tourist potential the harbour has to offer. The*

*wharf will cater for the new age solar ships transporting tourists and locals to destinations planned for up and down the South Coast. It will become an interpretive centre, telling the story of Wollongong and the Illawarra to those who disembark off the ships and read the many stories of the region. It will become an eating place and work place. It will be a fine example of an environmentally responsible building catering for the expectations of people visiting an eco-city for which Wollongong is destined to become.'*

One wonders why a proposal for any building should be accepted in ignorance of the eco-development requirements of the marine parks on which Wollongong was ideally built. Fishing is a vital global industry and a mainstay of the poor and native globally and locally. Anything that can be learned about it in Australia ideally provides commercial operators with a head start for the future while protecting marine and related life for future generations. This Hi-Tech submission is made in cognizance of this marine value, which it is dangerous for natives to reduce to price. A related need for broader blue, green and native vision is noted to implement regional goals more effectively in future.

**A business proposition for creation of a new company entitled Illawarra Ferries Pty Ltd is made by Frank Coluccio of Hi-Tech Consulting, in consultation primarily with the company Solar Sailor.** The proposal is for ferries which first make two round trips from Circular Quay, Sydney to Wollongong and Kiama Harbour 350 days a year. He points out that in 2003 the Australian Business Foundation identified four key areas for action to expand the Illawarra economy. One action was to invest in the infrastructure that connects people and places in and between regions, particularly transport. Another was to invest in knowledge infrastructure to transform the region. In 1995 the NSW Department of Regional Development identified a number of core business groups within the Illawarra region. The plan indicated the best way to grow the region is by tourism.

Ferries come in a great variety of sizes. I guess market pressure will be for the huge first. Such a market direction, so clearly shown to the tourist in giant, under utilized, expensive hotels, requires close consideration to support rather than undermine eco-development. One reads that Global funds giant Invesco is helping Cbus property develop a huge new police super complex in Melbourne's docklands and as usual wonders who this serves from broader community perspectives than the controlling male and industrial ones.

Open up because the alternative may be a new concrete, utilities and sport led bully fascism, not protection of natural resources for future generations, as sought and more democratic. One recalls Germany under Bismark appeared Europe's most developed warfare/ welfare state, with workers compensation and other benefits for soldiers and related men. The US is currently welcoming women into combat positions. This seems a very good idea, as although many have preferred other army positions, men have been forced to the front. As Leon Panetta and others argued on PBS Newshour, with equal rights come equal responsibility. Introduction of women into the army, while mixing armies, seems to be one of the most ideally instructive arenas anyone could envisage. The army is always said to be providing training. What is it? We don't know but should.

**Nine projects were proposed at an Illawarra Eco Tourism Workshop in March 2012, held by the Illawarra Local Aboriginal Land Council and Illawarra Eco Tourism Association**, discussed later. The papers state the event was built upon the successful Community Summit sponsored by WCC in 2011 where it was unanimously agreed *‘our natural environment is our premier lifestyle feature and attraction, i.e. from the mountains to the sea, we value and protect our natural environment and will be leaders in building an educated, creative and connected community’*.

Workshop participants also stated the event was *‘a first step in facilitating the resources of the wider community to take stewardship of our ecology, biodiversity, and environment and to encourage local investment and employment using Eco Tourism as a catalyst for a new industry in Wollongong and the Illawarra’*.

The Eco-Tourism vision states that they have interest from an investor in the establishment of ‘fully sustainable Eco Tourist Villages’, expected to be open for business by the summer of 2015/2016. **It is also proposed that an ECO-CITY World Summit should also be held in Wollongong in 2015.** One awaits a more open proposal on the villages wondering why the particular sites have been chosen, as Australian native peoples were traditionally nomadic hunter gatherers rather than farmers. No fishing?

As indicated earlier, one notes students from the UOW and TAFE Illawarra Institute are hoping the ‘Illawarra Flame’, a net-zero energy, solar powered house, designed by the group, will do well in the competition at the 2013 Solar Decathlon China event in Datong China. The team has been challenged to design, build and operate an advanced and appealing solar powered house that is not only energy efficient but also cost effective to build. There is a related huge global need for greening and water wise toilets, showers, cooking facilities and fuel to help reverse desertification in overgrazed subsistence economies where people also use wood for fuel, etc. Toilet and related waste control needs are also experienced by the family members who left the village for life in urban slums. China provided vast numbers with new homes. Who are Wollongong builders?

An earlier letter (10.10.11) from the President of the Illawarra Eco-Tourism Association, Dr Fady Sidrak, refers to the *Throsby/Dreaming Track: Project 1815-2015*. It points out establishment of the first formal white settlement at Wollongong was allegedly by Dr Charles Throsby in 1815, as the first settler to bring cattle from Campbelltown over the mountains to the coast. The letter states John Mant, former NSW commissioner against corruption, lawyer and town planner, would soon meet with the Wollongong lord major to discuss the plan, which ‘fits neatly with Council’s current development of a Community Strategic Plan’. Mr Mant is now elected to City of Sydney Council and facilitated the Illawarra Eco-Tourism Workshop. Council collaboration may be good.

One wonders if all private sector organizations make strategic plans and how they will relate to other key organizations, whether in government, in Wollongong, or elsewhere. This concern for gaining clearer direction for more effective, accountable and educational action is related to the key Workshop projects proposed below, of which the Aboriginal Dreaming/Throsby track down to Sandon Point is one:

1. Feature Aboriginal interpretive tours along the coast
  2. Establish an Aboriginal cultural centre at Bellambi near the middens
  3. Foreshore Parkland from Thirroul to Kiama
  4. Purchase/lease the Old Bulli mine site and restore the rain forest to a standard similar to Mt Keira Scout camp site
  5. Establish an eco-tourism centre at the Old Bulli mine site with cabins and interpretive tours up the mountain along the Aboriginal Dreaming/Throsby track and down to Sandon point
  6. Establish a second eco tourism facility with restored coastal flora environment at Fairy Meadow beach adjacent to the surf club
  7. Restore Puckey's and conduct interpretive tours through to Towradgi where Matthew Flinders is said to have landed
  8. Establish interpretive tours at Belmore Basin
  9. Restore Red Point military facilities and conduct Aboriginal interpretive tours, as a place which is noted in Captain Cook's diary
- Lead proponents of Projects 1 and 2 are the Illawarra Aboriginal Land Council.
  - Lead proponents of Project 3 are the Wollongong, Shellharbour and Kiama Councils.
  - Lead proponents of Projects 4&5 are not stated: 'call upon BHP Billiton to account on social responsibility and negotiate a grant or purchase a ninety nine year lease'.
  - Lead proponents of Projects 6&7 are Wollongong City Council/Tourism Wollongong
  - Lead proponents of Projects 8&9 are Aboriginal Land Council, Wollongong City Council/Bluescope Steel/Illawarra Business Chamber

An Illawarra Sustainability Action Plan was developed for 2008/09 to 2012/13. This includes specific actions for each Council to embed the consideration of sustainability into all Council decisions, processes, planning, reporting and operations. One notes the related directions referred to earlier in the letter about the development of Wollongong Harbour by Brian Dooley, Manager of Southern Projects in the Department of Primary Industries, Catchments and Lands, and so cautions against an early enthusiasm for buildings, giant or otherwise over the best bits of the coast. To leave the proposal to the market and Heritage protection may appear to lack more democratic and blue vision. We all know how much important men love to make their mark with a big new building.

One wonders how any proposed project costs, management structures and risks which relate to any proposed projects in the 'Outcomes Report of the Illawarra Eco-Tourism Workshop' are to be arrived at and treated. For example, is the word 'outcome' to be defined solely in financial terms when practices which are more complex and secret start? One assumes 'Solar Sailor' or any other ferry services will need to be constructed in related contexts. Where are the big producers and how will they operate and connect? One assumes many large and small ones must be found. The assumptions of wealthy or browner markets must continue driving if local employment models and workers are not.

## **5. WHITHER WASTE AND ITS POTENTIAL PRODUCT IN WOLLONGONG?**

In relation to greener building or manufacture, old people of the world may often seem rather like peasants who saw it all before. There are a lot of us globally and we are not effectively catered for. Openly fix life green, simple and cheap as the greatest beauty, knowledge, health and fulfilment will often come from that for future generations, which must be fewer rather than more numerous. Australia enters the Asian century unable to compete with international economies of scale in car and much related manufacturing production as well as being unable to compete with much cheaper US TV product and related collegiate communications systems and research. However, Australia has comparatively reliable and open communication, better than anywhere I've seen in the world. Wollongong should find and market simple, green, cheap, beautiful actions and related products regionally and globally before all the high tech marvels with the expensive but unavailable maintenance solutions wipe them out. Communication, film, research, education, development and innovation need to be addressed in this context.

The ideal use of waste, as well as transport, is central to support eco-production, distribution and tourism. In any community or organisation (including the home) waste comes in many forms, globally beginning with human afterbirth and excreta and ending in dead bodies. How is it managed in Wollongong and environs ideally and in practice? A huge amount of waste production and direction is undertaken in secret, partly to ensure support for current operational control and interests continuing I guess. Many websites on recycling have little or nothing behind them in my experience. They seem like the public face of controlling mafia relations, secretly laughing at us for being so stupid.

The Waste Management Association of Australia (WMAA) supposedly provides a peak national forum which enables the 'waste management industry' (sic.) to respond to demands for integrated resource management. Its members from large and small business, state corporations, local governments and other places are divided into national divisions with the following special interests:

- Landfill
- Construction and demolition
- Biohazard (clinical) waste
- Energy and waste
- Compost Australia
- Carbon Committee
- Waste education

Consideration of the waste hierarchy (i.e. product avoidance, reuse, recovery, recycling/reprocessing and disposal) is ideally undertaken in shared government, industry and community contexts in Wollongong, to identify and implement projects to reduce waste and the risks it poses (including those risks posed by its removal e.g. in buried asbestos disturbance) to the environment and/or social wellbeing. Producing greener jobs requires new knowledge. However, addressing waste is a related and comparatively secretive topic. One hopes to hear a lot more about Wollongong and other direction.

The City of Sydney Sustainable Sydney 2030 Plan includes the introduction of locally generated energy using various low-carbon energy generation technologies such as co-

generation, tri-generation and renewables. In the longer term, some of the fuel for this network will supposedly be sourced from local waste. One has no idea what kind of waste or how. They always appear to play many old cards close to very old chests in waste management. On the other hand, for example, San Antonio City Hall has done amazing things with sewage and waste water, to bring back water and beautify dry environments with parkland, according to a TV report on PBS NewsHour. In comparative terms Sydney superficially appears to be just beginning to develop.

More openly shared zones and openly shared fund management, with clear regional goals, projects and related accountabilities, are needed to implement key 'Stocking Up' directions discussed again later. One wonders what the 'Stocking Up' definition of 'virgin biomass' is (p. 43) and shudders to think – top numbers, top prices? From the Stocking Up view, humans too, must surely offer eco-system services to each other, as untapped natural resources. This opens a big can of worms, memorably touched upon by Swift in Ireland. While wealthy women have reproductive choice, many other women don't. Globally the price for a baby or a liver may depend on how fast one can pump them out. 'Stocking Up' has a poor measurement approach to life. More broadly and openly planned and shared approaches are needed to sea, land and its species, including humans. Health and welfare of women and children depends first on family planning, work and education. In a market view, however, the larger the potential number of workers and consumers the better. This is a huge problem which must be addressed in rural and urban relations to recognize and protect quality of life. Grasp it with China.

In the developed world, baby boomers are a huge rich generation who will become increasingly disabled and incredibly expensive before they die comparatively soon. Sugar, fat and the sedentary life take their toll and once given the regular related scan, one may get the diagnosis and the multiple additional drugs. Outside defence and related portfolios, the public world is largely focused on preparing for life rather than death. Although arranged largely in secret, the individual death appears likely to be an even more important source of potential or real professional income in the future than in the past, thanks in large part to medical science, the need for organs and the related potential of improved communication, transport, education, etc. In recognition of this, one has discussed the potential of a residuary bequest for openly implementing the University of Sydney Strategic Plan in related regional ways. Investigate related potential with UOW.

Many of the Irish Catholic solutions forced down the Australian throat by government appear corrupt from more broadly democratic perspectives, which ideally allow people more open choice and protection in the conditions of birth, sexual relations, and death. Old people have a right to death. I demand to have a strategy for killing myself and will want state assistance in return for donation of my body. Having to kill oneself with a gun, as they so often do in the US, appears socially counterproductive as they also kill each other with guns at a far greater rate than people do anywhere else in the OECD. Americans also appear to have a right to kill themselves or others while drunk in a car, as they may legally refuse a breathalyser test. Without a killing instrument it seems one has far fewer rights, which also greatly endangers and prevents the police from doing a good

job. The lack of a death penalty for mass murder soaks up welfare dollars the poor never get. One often wonders if Amnesty is mainly the product of US funded Catholic lawyers.

The Buddhist scholar, I hear, tries to learn to see his path to death as a studied adventure. My comparatively mild local tip is to throw a 'hunters and collectors' party on trestle tables every week-end, where tourists gather, with food, music and song, and also sell it on line with a touch of class. Australian film making is vitally important to shaping our democratic future. Create a culture which supports it with greater sophistication and breadth, whatever it is. Margaret and David can offer sensible TV direction as usual. I take my hat off to music TV and advertising in Australia as having truly great potential. For effective eco-development and related artistry or skill, build the showcase approach.

The vital role of eco-tourism for assisting related work, education, communication and trade purposes is ideally addressed in regional contexts, where marine and related park development lead with planned and openly shared services and related farming and manufacturing locally, regionally and globally. The very old and poor peasants have a lot in common, as the kindle, etc. have largely passed us by and looks set to do so forever, in the face of more pressing needs like memory, water or an inside toilet. I've been on the run from the mobile phone since the first was invented. Many others perhaps feel that about books and writing. On the global trading market, we can be huge together with the second hand book, film, and picture. The old will die soon. This is an opportunity for a change in the will to support an open future now and the free product of our history later. We are sick of men trampling over our common sense and losing the plot. (Heil Mary!)

Globally, while the rich buy bottled or otherwise transported water, Coke, etc. and shampoo their long hair in scarce water every day, often heated by wood, the poor may buy tiny plastic bags of water which also add to despoiling the earth, the sea and related creature habitats. Working in Wollongong to address the key production sources and treatment of water and related plastic waste seems potentially to be a powerful leading source of more effective waste and emissions control, with better jobs in renewable resources instead of in more plastic packaging, which now gathers all over the world and often blows very thickly and quickly around land and water. Waste appears to be an area crying out for triple bottom line accounting – environmental, social and economic – which is ideally necessary for production and consumption in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. How does this relate to concepts of eco-system services according to experts? God alone knows?

In regard to international trading, one recalls every Kenyan school is expected to have a new fish pond. This is the kind of trade, breeding, planting, farming and manufacturing direction often raped early then neglected, when direction should be open, simple, green and cheap. Development may be driven instead by unreliable high end choice and related vested interests, with impossibly expensive maintenance costs built in. These are supported by councils or governments whose members seek to be re-elected through their old boys' associations and related project and job hand-outs as election spoils.

In Australia, Wollongong is ideally a huge new park, sea, land and heritage opportunity with associated big service and manufacturing management responsibilities. Take an

open approach instead of business as usual. People may learn faster with less pain on the job. The need for more sustainable land, construction and property management is ideally discussed in related regional contexts. People are ideally conceptualised first as living in environments, exposed to forces and doing work which has consequences. Recommendations for project management in Wollongong are made later as a result of key related problems outlined in the Inquiry into Insolvency in the Construction Industry.

## **6. TOWARDS BETTER TREATMENT OF SCARCE NATURAL RESOURCES**

People often have little idea how their invested funds may be deployed. Australian local councils may also manage badly or be corrupt or experience the effects of this. The play 'The Table of Knowledge' gives an example of the former land corruption problem in Wollongong. On the other hand Australian councils successfully sued the ratings agency Standard and Poors recently, for providing low risk ratings for investment products which were wildly unstable and crashed in 2008, losing vast amounts of public money which was supposedly treated safely. Given the legal costs of supposedly corrective ventures, ratepayers and taxpayers should not be impressed by the return to business as usual. People like Bernie Fraser, Gary Weaven, other architects of non-profit industry superannuation funds, or related health and workers compensation insurance schemes should be asked about better fund directions for taxpayers and investors. Try Dick Smith.

Globally, the combination of huge population and technological growth is terrifying if men do not turn their attention to pursuits which tend God's garden rather than destroy it. The recognition of women, through giving them control over their reproduction, paid work and education is seen as a crucial part of that process. As Australia enters an Asian Century, it makes sense to openly consider better related business directions in the light of Australian and global need. If the Chinese government and others are concerned about corruption, openly shared management is best and cheapest because feudal operation is often corrupt by more broadly merit based and democratic criteria, where one is not supposed to privilege one's brethren, the family and supporters. It is washed through college, business, family, sport or related cultural connections instead before choosing.

Before he had a heart attack skiing at Aspen, as Matthew Drummond pointed out in the AFR, David Coe's philosophical side revealed itself in his love of abstract art. Was the failed tycoon indeed a giant among men, mentor to Paul Sheehan in the SMH and many others? You tell us. We are thrilled by hearing anything about any relationships between the private and the public. What might he have done with the money Coe handed so generously to all before he lost \$1 billion, cram it down his own throat alone? He has three grown up sons and presumably his wife is not a total dummy. Ask them and Gina Rinehart, apparently the richest miner and woman in the world, to tell us what they think about their estate so we may all protect ourselves better in future. Share our problems.

Adele Ferguson's book about Gina Rinehart was an absolute mine of information. We greatly respect her willingness to share, even at great legal cost, when others more polite appear to sneer. We often sneer at them instead. Taxation is ideally constructed in related service contexts to try to prevent big failure taking others down who appear

innocent of any questionable behaviour. This is discussed later in regard to the Australian Tax Office (ATO) inquiry into the use of compliance risk assessment tools and the inquiry into construction industry insolvency. Newspapers, TV and radio everywhere could do much more to inform us how to protect ourselves. It seems clear in Africa that good newspapers connect the comparatively poor English reader, against the corruption odds. If the US communications trajectory snuffs them all out, we all have no defence.

Direct action aimed at reducing climate change should guide many markets better, ideally linked with creation of marine and land park environments in Wollongong and beyond. The Indigenous carbon farming fund appears to need to lead openly with more broadly related adult supervision because my womanly experience in government, workers compensation, industry superannuation and related fund management is that this is also a good way to be safe. Try to suck them dry like an orange and pass it on to others.

This is ideally the global context in which more media, education, travel and enjoyment are also constructed in open regional partnerships, to support new open learning and related open debate on the much greener job, and in related open media and explanation. Try talking to Intrepid Travel which also has a foundation which administers related charitable operations globally. The First Comprehensive Travellers Handbook from the Centre for Responsible Travel in Washington, by Martha Honey, which deals with philanthropy, does not mention open management or why it might appear a necessary precondition for good management. As usual this appears to be more than a mistake. One hates this concealing, lying, filth whose greatest value seems to lie in being polite.

Under the heading **1: *Protect the assets that underpin our marine estate*** ‘Stocking Up’ states we must treat our marine estate as a portfolio of valuable ecological assets. We need to balance our investment portfolio across a well-managed commercial fishing estate; marine protected areas and highly protected areas.

In **2: *Rebuild fish stocks*** Stocking Up states 42 percent of fisheries remain in an over-fished or unknown state and better care needs to be taken of them in ways which serve to **3: *Align short run commercial incentives with long run community needs for sustainable resource management.*** Under the heading **4: *Invest in regular monitoring and review of catch levels and effectiveness on protected areas*** Stocking Up states we need better information to avoid sudden collapse of eco-systems and it recommends **5: *Support local communities through marketing and business innovation.*** (p.56). A regional management framework for doing such project work is suggested later.

‘Stocking Up’ earlier stated ‘*We should invest in marine protected areas to protect our full range of marine values, and provide more stable returns from our natural assets. We should also rebuild fish stocks to improve long term yields, and insure against population crashes*’ (p. 7). Instead of having faith in their measurement approach, one fears both the definition and quantification of ‘eco-services’, as they may easily appear part of attempts to reduce market and non market values for fish and other life in oceans to a single numerical term (a price). This gives market services a far higher value and related power than non-market services. The method mainly appears likely to destroy both the real life

of fish and also their environments, via badly attributed values to fish and other life in oceans. This allows markets to exploit them better and move on to tap more attractive markets elsewhere, before the next global crash, following 2008. Openly planned and clearly shared management approaches to sea, land, and native resources appear better.

Seek more open information about the geographical locations of these areas and how they ideally interact to meet and police their shared management interests in all three areas of operation. On land, Google Earth, managers of parks, reserves and zoos already have this kind of geographic information so the natural aim is to extend land and water protection and breeding directions to assist business operation. Kew Gardens and many others in London, which is wonderful for its huge parks all over a crowded city, have led this eco-development direction, with great stocks of international plants, seeds, technologies and films by David Attenborough and others for BBC TV, e.g. 'The Life of Plants', etc. etc.

To openly share and manage constructive direction in key regional stakeholder, rather than separated government and stockholder relationships would be comparatively new. However, it could stably share knowledge, educate and prevent corruption and cronyism very cheaply, as long as decisions are openly justified. It could provide clearer accountability for decision making to achieve goals and spread related product for future business through open communication that all the collegiate silos normally bottle up.

'Stocking Up' states in Appendix 1 (p.59):

To estimate the value of Australian marine ecosystem services we used a unit benefit transfer technique supplemented by survey data where this was available. Unit benefit transfer allows the value of ecosystem services to be estimated by multiplying a unit value (\$/hectare/year) by the number of hectares of each type of ecosystem. It is frequently used when time and cost prevent detailed ecological and economic studies being undertaken for the specific ecosystems being studied. Instead, it draws on a body of existing studies for similar ecosystems to estimate the value per hectare.

How can the value of an eco-system, as distinct from work to remediate its attributes to some formerly imagined or actually known quality, be sensibly undertaken and related? For whose benefit is the estimation of the value of the ecosystem services being done?

The figures in Table 2 of 'Stocking Up', entitled 'Estimated Ecosystem Services Values from Australia's Marine Estate' are apparently developed according to 'CPD analysis using de Groot et al. (2010) and other services. They estimate the total value of eco-systems services (i.e. the non-market services supplied to us by Australian oceans) are around \$25 billion. One wonders why this comparatively low value in relation to yearly fish removal is suggested. It seems as if the value of fish caught is far more than the value of what is left in any single year. To whom does this make most sense?

As usual, God alone knows how CPD, de Groot et al. etc. arrived at the figures. It seems another secret recipe only available to them, so one prefers more apparently open, well-

known, broadly developed and apparently stable UN or related Australian Bureau of Statistics classifications for work and related outcome comparisons including in research. In this context, the use of anthropomorphic concepts like ‘the ocean’s best line of defence against external hits like climate change’ (p. 24), sounds as if the sea might also enjoy a game of tennis. This is not a sensible context for managing risk. It adds to it.

## **7. PROPOSED MANAGEMENT PRINCIPLES FOR ECO-DEVELOPMENT**

### **Q. How should partnerships for eco-development be constructed and their results measured, in regard to planned eco-development at Wollongong and beyond?**

From this central perspective on quality of life, the meaning of ‘*eco-services*’ appears ideally related to the work done by humans to improve the welfare of humans, including through improving the related quality of land, water, air, threatened species and habitat now and for future generations. The Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification (ANZSIC) is ideally used for related work classification, project monitoring and outcome study purposes. This seems the approach ideally supported by government, including through the Australian Bureau of Statistics.

This regional and institutional, rather than purely price and market driven direction is advised by the Productivity Commission (PC) in many related reports, although not in all. I guess many at the consultation by the Strategic Review of National Health and Medical Research would rather speak of the ‘health system’ than the ‘health industry’. However, one may ask what health professionals think they are doing if it isn’t work – paid or unpaid. What do they call what they are engaged in instead – having fun or serving God?

As addressed in an earlier response to the Strata and Community Title Law Reform Discussion Paper, the place, activity and person based risk management approach forged in embryo by Australian governments for health care services, and for some work related rehabilitation, disability, pension and insurance funds, is comparatively good. It must be understood to construct fairer and more consistently stable and cost-effective approaches to managing other place, time, activity and person based risks and taxation, levies or insurances well, as shared concerns, for example in construction, maintenance and land or water management. This is an inclusive UN approach to achieve openly shared protection and enhancement of land, water, and heritage, where government and others openly also assist direction and construction of newly developing markets, such as in carbon trading.

On the other hand, the authors of Australia’s Native Vegetation Framework’ Framework state about the UN Convention on Biological Diversity ‘*Its focus on equity is beyond the scope of this framework. This document therefore uses the term ‘whole-of-ecosystem approach’ to encompass the ecological (as opposed to social and economic elements) of this concept*’. This appears to be a fundamental policy mistake driven by comparatively powerful but ignorant and complex market approaches rather than by more effectively planned and openly delivered approaches, such as have occurred to comparatively good effect in the provision of health care services to humans, who are part of the landscape while naturally also acting upon it. The basic Australian approach taken to protect the

health of humans is recommended more widely, because they live on and off the land, water and air, along with other life forms and related natural resources like fuel, food and building material. Take better coordinated management far more broadly and openly.

Think globally, act locally, in Wollongong. In recent years in Australia, the land has largely been rhetorically acknowledged as shared and under our custody. There is also a generally acknowledged need, reflected in government policy and direction, to offer special protection of the cultural identity of those who came first, the Australian aborigines, as hunter gatherers, lest this history and knowledge is lost to the world. Looking back, the dominant white Australian approaches to development have often been institutionally rather than market driven, nationally or through state government and related institutions for comparatively protective reasons, which have been comparatively effectively delivered. Australian aborigines would do well to consider their historical fate in an internationally comparative light. They might get a few shocks. Men have been incredibly nasty and murdered millions in spots, even or especially the most polite.

This direction supports the WHO Ottawa Charter of 1986 which stated that necessary supports for health include peace, shelter, food, income, a stable economic system, sustainable resources, social justice and equity. The Charter called for development of public policy and the reorientation of health services as well as community action and education to support health goals. In 1997 the WHO Conference called for development of health promotion through co-operation between governments and the private sector. Market approaches to health and care have not delivered Americans better health, compared to many other nations in the OECD, which have more planned approaches to wellbeing. Why would a market approach to protecting the natural environment be any better? See discussion of related US economic problems in Wessel's 'Red Ink' (2012).

Openly shared and managed zones and/or related common property provide a better opportunity to address many related problems to increase quality of life and productivity. In a recent Australian Financial Review article (AFR 23.3.12, p. 1), the NSW Premier's Chair of Public Service Delivery, at the Uni. of New South Wales, Gary Sturgess, quotes Alfred Sloan, long-time chief executive of General Motors, who wrote in the 1950s:

From decentralization we get responsibility, development of personnel, decisions close to the facts, flexibility – in short, all of the qualities necessary for an organization to adapt to new conditions. From co-ordination we get efficiencies and economies. It must be apparent that coordinated decentralisation is not an easy concept to apply.

Sloan wrote before the invention of the internet and personal computer made the potential of coordinated decentralisation much more obvious, easy and potentially democratic through Microsoft, Google and related great democratic inventions. Use them better in the service of all rather than just those who are able to buy them to tweet or to feed their theoretically led drivel through a computer to turn it into numbers. Australian government has good website and inquiry usage. This is a key aspect of democracy. One hopes the private sector might catch up.

The free research symposium ‘Resilience: Can our Environment keep bouncing back?’ held in 2011 by the Faculty of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at Sydney University was also open to the public and thus very valuable to me, who had earlier only heard of ‘resilience’ in regard to management of human health and rehabilitation. One recommends this free learning approach highly as a means of gaining consistency in professional approaches, rather than seeing their fragmentation into jargon invested silos designed to keep others outside their power to control resources through dodgy numbers.

At the symposium Michael Harris discussed the use of INFFER, a simple investment framework for environmental resources and a tool for planning and prioritizing public investments in natural resources and the environment. INFFER requires decision makers to be explicit in their assumptions and start planning with regional maps in which the significant public assets are identified and simply graded in terms of their high or low significance and related threat, prior to making recommendations for action to improve their nature and resilience. Similar activity needs to occur in seas and native vegetation.

For example, since the 1960’s, the development of the national reserve system in Australia has been based on the principles of comprehensiveness, adequateness and representativeness (CAR). These principles are also directly related to the development of the Interim Biogeographic Regionalization of Australia (IBRA), which divides Australia into 85 distinct biogeographic regions and 403 sub-regions. IBRA provides a scientific framework and tool to aid and evaluate the realization of the CAR principles in the development of the national reserve system and Australia in general. However, the Commonwealth government draft Native Vegetation Framework did not refer to CAR or IBRA when I last saw it. One wonders why not since it appears a vital way forward for effectively managing land and related water. I guess I’ve seen Singapore Zoo and others pursue vital, threatened breeding functions this way, against the odds of the concrete forces who want even more inhabitants to fill their giant empty malls and pay them rent.

Superficially, the related concept of a carbon price now seems comparatively straightforward and useful in Australia, like the potential of Australian industry non-profit superannuation funds for serving Australians and others more broadly. This direction was begun under the Hawke and Keating government with industrial cooperation in the broader interests of the Australian people through the Accord. One hopes to see it turn into something better than the new guys’ concrete and car fascism. Wollongong direction may also be used as a related ambit claim and pattern bargaining direction in many related geographic arenas which would benefit from the competition.

Australian non-profit industry superannuation funds led the way in this direction. Continue the planned and shared service approaches to land and property ownership, development and accountability begun by Australian government in regard to the provision of health care services and more stable, equitable and cost-effective management and funding for personal health care and for related government and industry led support, especially in old age or when one is disabled and while at work. The National Disability Insurance Scheme is ideally coordinated in a place based context.

Little that is honestly said could be worse than what is dished up to us by lawyers at huge expense. Do not expect a lawyer to admit this or anything else. If relying on lawyers one will waste a lot of time, wasting other peoples' money or one's own. Use plain language writing, pictures, websites, movies, etc. instead. If you cannot say what you think is a fair resolution of a shared problem, how could anyone satisfy you? Legal privilege is a menace because it assumes that secrecy is generally protective when it is the reverse. The practice of law is not a service but a feudal relic useful to the dominant polite elite.

The Inquiry into Construction Industry Insolvency in NSW drew attention to key reasons for insolvency, such as the cost of preparing bids, the under-bidding necessary to win the scarce job, and the capacity of the larger and/or more powerful organization to pass on the risk of failure to those lower down contracting chains, including through late payment for completed work. The money of the lawyer, doctor or other bureaucratic or professional hangers on, in contrast, is often guaranteed by the state. One notes the helpful suggestion of Craigs Coastal Landscaping Pty. Ltd. in Wollongong, for a proposed construction industry trust:

- The developer or owner has to have the funding for the project approved and money should be set aside in a trust
- A percentage amount for variations should be part of the trust arrangement
- As the builder makes claims, the owner and developer verifies that the work has been done and that payment to subcontractors and suppliers has been made before the next payment is made

The above may ideally be the structure for openly shared regional and non-profit fund and related project management, to which further work, education and certification may all be attached, as part of the contract and settlement process, to gain quality management and better outcomes. Make relations open, as this can prevent a lot of corruption cheaply.

In this context the NSW Office of Fair Trading Home Building Contract seems a clear, informative and helpful product. It must be filled in properly for quality management. Ideally, the people who originally called for the contract must see that it clearly reflects what they wanted most. Clause 11 of the contract is the **prime cost items schedule**. When filled in it should clearly display the required inputs and amounts related to the step by step achievement of the key conditions which originally led to the contract agreement and its expected production outcomes. Clause 12 provides the **progress payments schedule**, related to the staged and approved completion of the work. This may also relate to the later **schedule for inspections**. This ideally ensures work quality, the resulting periodic payment and any related accreditation of skills development on the job.

The Consultation Paper on Australia's Future Tax System (2008) for a Review Panel chaired by Ken Henry stated the Australian Taxation Office should openly support greener industry and community development. It stated the Panel viewed environmental sustainability to be of such importance to Australia's future that it is ideally a principle against which the current tax system and potential reforms ought to be tested (p.14). A related concern in the Inspector-General of Taxation work program review into aspects of the Australian Tax Office (ATO 2012) use of compliance risk assessment tools was:

*Taxpayer opportunities to reduce or mitigate risk: The concern is that there are limited opportunities for taxpayers to reduce their risk due to the lack of transparency of risk assessment processes and barriers to entry into cooperative arrangements.*

Tax, insurance premiums or other key levies, risk rated or not, are ideally conceptualised and collected in openly related industry and community management contexts first based on place. For purposes of improving work performance and also containing and pricing all related risks better, consider ideal scheme and project design in the light of Australian history of work, health, disability and related insurance, taxation, pension and investment structures, using data categories of Australian and New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification. Use other United Nations (UN), Australian government, or industry and community classifications to help conceptualize tax in many related more open contexts.

In general, all these directions seek to be broadly consistent with Stiglitz' view that a broader, longer-term vision, focusing on the plight of the poor and the challenge of global warming, is now necessary to ensure there is more than enough demand to absorb all of the world's production capacity' (2010, p. 192). This is broader than an Eco-City Vision as it is also the UN and related visions of the connected high quality news, documentary and entertainment world. The rest may appear to be comparatively ignorant propaganda. Ideally we are happy to honestly debate the toss until we get too bored or may get fired.

Whether nations may superficially appear to be 'democracies' or not, the management of land, water, air and all that is put upon them, may be more effectively conducted on an openly shared and openly managed basis rather than according to the assumptions of legal privilege and related commercial in confidence behaviour, which leaves everybody else even more ignorant than those in control with comparatively self-inflicted blinkers.

The charge is that the 'Stocking Up' approach to measurement fails to distinguish clearly between market driven and planned approaches to development and related research, confusing them instead. This encourages many repeat performances, plus more of the problems already created and perpetuated by increasingly dysfunctional professional closures supporting US market domination by financial and statist elites. They make further connections with their future gravy trains at key elite universities or at home, without having had much real and beneficial effect on disappearing marine populations.

Invariably, they seek to reduce a range of complex environmental phenomena and outcomes purely to price, primarily to meet their own needs rather than those of surrounding or later communities, whether human or marine. They reflect business as usual - the outmoded, opposite direction to providing solutions for the worst social and environmental problems of the most vulnerable people and other species first, to protect them for future generations. By a planned process, ideally one also builds many better platforms for security in the Asian century than at present. Ideally we are done with the constant feudal cycles of war and peace, plus their related booms and crashes. Open up.

