

SANDON POINT COMMUNITY PICKET

PRESS RELEASE
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PICKET PUTS POLLIES ON NOTICE

Laws and policies relating to flood, environment and heritage that have been ignored at Sandon Point must be applied, say organisers of a Sandon Point public meeting to be held on Saturday, 24/8/02 on the site.

'All levels of government have continued to allow the destruction of this unique coastal site and we are now putting the politicians on notice' organiser Ros Gard said today, 'it's time for an electoral shake up in the Illawarra which will let the politicians know that this community has had enough'.

We are holding this meeting to inform the whole community of the fact that there are still a whole range of serious and unresolved issues; threatened species, wetland protection, flood dangers, traffic, not to mention the wholesale destruction of Aboriginal and European heritage. 'People aren't even aware that Stockland are using the railway culvert as a dam!' said local environmentalist, Marcel Van Wijk.

'The present destruction at the Bulli end of the site is only a quarter of what Stockland wants. They want 300 more on the old AIR brickworks site in Thirroul, which is likely to be just as contentious' Ms Gard said.

'There's 70 years of contaminated fill on this flood plain. It will be amazing and appalling if the NSW Government allows Stockland to get away with putting houses up where you can't even grow vegetables' said Ms Gard.

The two year 24 hour vigil by both the Aboriginal Tent Embassy and the Community Picket, supported by the South Coast Labor Council, shows the depth of feeling and breadth of support for Sandon Point in the local and wider community.

Saturday's public meeting begins at 12pm at Sandon Point, Bulli. The Organisers plan a family day with bbq and music. For more information ph Ros Gard 0402 099 059 (ah) or Margaret O'Riordan 4228 4166 (w) or 42838738 (h).