

Save Bastion Point

*protect this coastal environment
from inappropriate development*



*Friends
of
Mallacoota
Inc.*



MEDIA RELEASE

Wednesday, May 12 2010

Labor's Legacy? Mallacoota Residents deliver postcard message to stop the vandalism Bastion Point

Residents from Mallacoota in Victoria's Far East Wilderness Coast today presented 1400 postcards embodied in a unique marine art installation to Minister for Environment, Climate Change and Innovation, Gavin Jennings.

The postcards call on Minister Jennings to reject a proposal for a boat ramp and breakwater development, through his powers under the Coastal Management Act 1995.

Bastion Point boat ramp was controversially rubber stamped by Minister for Planning, Justin Madden, under planning law and the subject of Supreme Court proceedings earlier this week.

The development was reviewed by an EES Panel of Inquiry, which concluded that the project should not proceed as it had no overall societal benefit. They told the Minister for Planning that the development would be detrimental to tourism, had poor economic credentials, raised serious safety issues and was not compliant with Victorian coastal policy.

The proposal will shortly go before Minister Jennings for consent under the Coastal Management Act.

"This development proposal will destroy one of Mallacoota's iconic surf breaks and damage the tourism potential of Victoria's Wilderness Coast," Friends of Mallacoota spokesperson Leo op den Brouw said.

"The Panel clearly laid out a way forward on Bastion Point – recommending a low key upgrade to the current ramp, without breakwaters, that would preserve swimming and surfing and the unique natural features of Bastion Point."

"The Brumby Government and Minister Jennings need to put a halt to this coastal development and restore community faith in the State's planning process, following a series of controversial decisions of late."

The **Save Bastion Point Campaign** is a coalition of groups and individuals opposed to inappropriate development at Bastion Point, Mallacoota and is supported by the Victorian National Parks Association, Victoria's leading nature conservation organisation.

MEDIA NOTE:

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