



KIN KIN COMMUNITY DESERVES MORE FROM GOVERNMENT

News that Deputy Premier Anna Bligh has rejected the application by Titanium Enterprises to build The Edge eco-tourism development at Kin Kin is disappointing for the local community and shows that the Deputy Premier is still not across all of the specific details of the application as to the worth of the project to Kin Kin, said Member for Noosa Glen Elmes.

"I have closely followed and actively supported the need for a suitable project to be built at Kin Kin since my election in September of last year. I have attended the information days, spoken to community groups and know first-hand how eager the residents of Kin Kin were to see The Edge become a reality," said Mr Elmes.

"When Anna Bligh announced in Parliament that she had called-in the development I sought and was granted a briefing from the Office of Urban Management on their plans for the use of rural land throughout south-east Queensland.

"I understand and support the need to preserve for all time viable farmland and pristine conservation areas. However, in this case, it was degraded farmland that was to be used with other areas of high conservation value to be protected and enhanced."

Mr Elmes said that the Kin Kin community hasn't been idly sitting by and waiting for a benefactor to come along and save their community.

"The second annual Kin Kin Art, Well-being and Bush Tucker Day was held on Sunday, May 27 with over 5000 people, including myself, attending.

"This is a great example of a small rural community being proactive," Glen Elmes said.

"On Wednesday, June 6 I delivered a speech in the Parliament¹ specifically about Kin Kin and the need for a well-planned eco-tourism operation like The Edge to be developed. After all, it was a Government decision to phase out timber and another Government decision to de-regulate the dairy industry. It's about time the Government gave a little back to ensure a long-term sustainable economic future for the community of Kin Kin along with the local employment opportunities that such a development would bring.

"I hope that when the dust settles, Titanium will re-apply and in co-operation with Noosa Council, see the realisation of a dream for the local community.

"I will certainly be doing everything I can to assist." Mr Elmes said.

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¹ Copy of speech attached