

# *Camden Residents' Action Group*

*Incorporated*

*Camden – Still a Country Town*

**Website:** <http://www.crag.org.au/>

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Agriculture Minister: Tara Moriarty

Email: [Tara.moriarty@parliament.nsw.gov.au](mailto:Tara.moriarty@parliament.nsw.gov.au)

11 June 2026

Dear Minister Moriarty,

We're writing on behalf of the Camden Residents' Action Group. Established in 1973, our group has long worked to protect Camden's heritage, rural setting and environmental amenity — the qualities that make our town such a distinctive and valued place to live. We know these are values you have championed throughout your work in planning and public spaces.

We are contacting you because we are increasingly concerned about the level of land clearing occurring across NSW and the sense that very little is being done to address it. Large areas of valuable habitat are being lost each year, with serious implications for biodiversity across the state. As a group that has spent decades advocating for our own local environment, we are troubled by the broader consequences of unchecked clearing in Western NSW. Although Camden is far from these regions, our members feel strongly that the loss of bushland anywhere in NSW affects the health, resilience and character of the places we all share.

Reports indicating that around 66,000 hectares of bushland are being cleared annually have caused significant concern within our community. This level of clearing contributes to the decline of native wildlife, the erosion of natural landscapes that shape NSW's identity, and growing pressure on communities trying to protect their own local character. It has also created a sense that our environmental laws are no longer keeping pace with the scale of change.

We are equally concerned about the operation of the Local Land Services Act and the loopholes that continue to allow native vegetation to be cleared. These issues must also be addressed if the state is to meaningfully reduce the ongoing loss of habitat.

We understand the NSW Government is reviewing the Biodiversity Conservation Act, and we see this as an important opportunity to ensure the state's planning and environmental frameworks work together to protect what remains of our bushland.

As a group which has consistently advocated for good planning, heritage protection and high-quality public spaces, we hope you will support stronger safeguards and greater transparency around land clearing.

Our community would welcome a system that balances landholder needs with the long-term health of the environment — one that ensures future development across NSW is grounded in respect for landscape, heritage and local amenity.

We would appreciate understanding what steps the Government is taking to deliver on its commitment to end broadscale land clearing.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glenda Davis".

Glenda Davis  
President  
Cc CRAG committee