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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



Well lets hope we do!

**Wednesday, 2 March 2011**

Only 2 more days to go in the Pubic Hearings for the Port Phillip Woollen Mill Advisory Committee. Save Williamstown and Cecil St Residents have attended regularly throughout the 3 weeks of public hearings challenging assumptions put forward by the developer's expert witnesses. Thanks for all the support from community members. Thanks to Mobil for being honest and in touch with our community needs. This is something the community must win or the heritage of Williamstown and its industry will not survive....

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# SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



## Riverside addresses raise concerns for Yarra's future

**Saturday, 5 March 2011**

The Age

Simon Johanson March 5, 2011 - 12:13AM

'MELBOURNE is embracing waterfront living, with several large apartment projects about to be built on the Yarra River. But the riverside homes are not without controversy and planners warn the growing enjoyment of the Yarra's amenities needs to be balanced against environmental concerns.

Property group Hampton this week will begin marketing the first stage of the 586-apartment Eden development by a Yarra bend on the former Honeywell factory site in Abbotsford.

Construction of an 11-storey, 201-apartment block is expected to begin in July once its 70 per cent pre-sales target is reached. Second and third stages are planned for 2012 and 2013.

Many local residents objected to the controversial Honeywell development during the planning stage before it was approved by Victoria's planning tribunal last November. Hampton director Steve Buxton said apartment costs were expected to range from \$320,000 for smaller one-bedroom units to \$1,915,000 for three bedrooms with river views.....!

<http://www.theage.com.au/action/printArticle?id=2216350>

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# SAVE **WILLIAMSTOWN**



## Planning: major hazard facilities

**Saturday, 5 March 2011**

Hansard  
Legislative Assembly

'Mr NOONAN (Williamstown) -- I wish to raise a matter for the attention of the Minister for Planning in the other place. The action I seek from the minister is that he conduct a review of the state's planning policies and guidelines as they relate to major hazard facilities.

I seek this review at a time of growing uncertainty about whether there is a need to preserve safe buffer distances between these facilities and new residential developments. This issue is particularly pertinent to my local community as 5 of the state's 41 registered major hazard facilities are located in the Williamstown electorate. Mobil operates three of these sites at Williamstown, Yarraville and Altona whilst Caltex has one facility in Newport, as does Shell. These major hazard facilities are industrial sites that store, handle

or process large quantities of hazardous chemicals and dangerous goods, including petroleum products. They also provide valuable places of employment for local workers and help generate wealth in our local economies. In many ways they are part of the fabric of Melbourne's west. Unfortunately planning decisions over previous decades have not always respected the need to preserve appropriate buffers between these major hazard facilities and residential areas.

In recent times WorkSafe Victoria has been developing a series of maps to provide better information to local councils and planners to help guide decision making in relation to land rezoning applications near Victoria's major hazard facilities. Whilst this work is valuable, as far as I am aware there is no standard methodology or criteria used to inform planning proposals on land surrounding major hazard facilities; there is simply a risk-based assessment to finding an inner and outer planning advisory area. Last year the Victorian Civil and Administrative Tribunal rejected an appeal by a developer to construct 66 new dwellings in Stephen Street, Yarraville, on the basis of the site's proximity to Mobil's Yarraville terminal. The development site was identified as being approximately 180 metres to the east of the major hazard facility. Conversely there has been approval for a residential rezoning of the old Port Phillip Woollen Mill site in Williamstown, which has part of the subject site falling within a 300 metre recommended buffer distance of Mobil's Point Gellibrand facility. There is also a current application before the Hobsons Bay City Council to rezone land at a disused flour mill site in Newport, which has been delayed due to its proximity to Shell's major hazard facility and has had a strong objection from WorkSafe. Each of these matters is understandably complex and, as such, questions have been raised about whether our current planning guidelines are adequate to deal with them. This uncertainty could be resolved through a planning advisory committee investigation similar to that of the Ports and Environs Advisory Committee.'

A new committee could review the major hazard facilities and provide an opportunity for local government, facility operators, residents and developers to each have input and make recommendations about future planning guidelines. Either way, something needs to be done.

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Wade Noonan, MP State Member of Parliament for  
Williamstown District 101 Douglas Parade

Williamstown Vic 3016 Tel: 03 9399 9022 Fax: 03 9397  
7227  
Email: [wade.noonan@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:wade.noonan@parliament.vic.gov.au)

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### Change of plan

**Sunday, 6 March 2011**

The Age

Marc Pallisco

6th March 2011

‘The Baillieu government has scrapped Labor’s high-density apartment policy but its own planning vision is at least two years away, writes Marc Pallisco.

SO WHAT now? After nine years adopting the previous state government’s hugely contentious Melbourne 2030 planning policy, the city’s development landscape is set to change and apartments may be on the nose.

In one of its first official acts — and as it promised to do before the November 21 election — the Baillieu government has destroyed Labor government planning laws facilitating highdensity redevelopment (i.e. over three storeys) along all public transport nodes.

In opposition, Planning Minister Matthew Guy said

Melbourne risked becoming dysfunctional, and losing its character permanently, unless suburban apartment construction was curbed.

In power, Mr Guy has committed to a two-year audit and consultation program to determine a new model of metropolitan planning.

In taking this popular-with-the-community stand, the new government has challenged an army of planning consultants (typically citing global examples such as Los Angeles) suggesting suburban Melbourne needs more apartments to remain liveable.

If the new Baillieu government gets its way, apartments will still be built and in substantial numbers. But the biggest projects will be limited to specific sites close to the central business district. Mr Guy has so far identified three longdiscussed and under-utilised examples of where large-scale strategic apartment redevelopment may occur, including Fishermans Bend in Port Melbourne, the 20-hectare E-Gate site on Footscray Road in West Melbourne, and pockets of land (and air space) around the Richmond train station, near the ever-evolving stadium precinct.....'

<http://theage.digitaleditions.com.au/olive/ode/online/>  
Available on-line to subscribers to The Age.

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# SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



## Kodak site development plan approved

**Tuesday, 8 March 2011**

Visual City website

“Kodak site development plan [Source: Department of Planning and Community Development]

In May 2009, Planning Minister Justin Madden exercised ‘call-in’ powers for the Kodak site in Coburg. This effectively shifted responsibility for approving and amending the development plan from Moreland City Council to the Planning Department. In March this year, The Age reported on Moreland City Council’s anger at the lack of communication and consultation undertaken by the Planning Minister during the ‘call-in’. Director of city development, Roger Collins, also criticised the plan for falling short of earlier proposals in the amount of affordable housing provision and use of environmentally sustainable design. Having recently approved the development plan for the Kodak site, the minister has returned planning control back

to Moreland City Council.

Developers Urbex will take the 20.8Ha site forward with the approved development plan providing 380 new homes, a neighbourhood hub and new open spaces. Moreland City Council has a Kodak site redevelopment page while the development plan is available from the Department of Planning and Community Development.....'

<http://visualcity.wordpress.com/2010/07/06/kodak-site-development-plan-approved/>

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# SAVE **WILLIAMSTOWN**



## Australia's rust bucket armada

**Tuesday, 8 March 2011**

In our presentation to the Port Phillip Woollen Mill Advisory Committee, our expert witness on shipping dangers referred to the condition of foreign vessels entering Australian waters. This article shows that this issue is relevant to Australian vessels as well...

ABC 7.30 report Transcript

“LEIGH SALES, PRESENTER: The Department of Defence has a longstanding reputation for waste, mismanagement and a lack of accountability. Tonight, 7.30 has a close look at one recent case. Why were the Navy's key transport ships missing in action over summer as Cyclone Yasi bore down on the Queensland coast?

To give some context first though, the Defence Department makes one of the biggest calls on the public purse; \$27 billion this financial year. There are currently 11 Defence

projects with a combined worth of \$10 billion running over time and over budget. For example, there's the Wedgetail airborne early warning aircraft, approved 14 years ago and still not airworthy. There are the Overlander field vehicles, constantly delayed and still at testing stage. And, the Collins Class submarines with huge maintenance issues.

Over summer, the Defence Minister's patience with his department was tested to its limits when he was repeatedly told that the only available transport ship was sea-worthy when it wasn't.

7.30 can confirm the HMAS Tobruk was so riddled with rust that in places its hull was just two millimetres thick.....

<http://www.abc.net.au/7.30/content/2011/s3157437.htm>

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# SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



## Panel to mull on Williamstown project

**Wednesday, 9 March 2011**

Hobsons Bay Leader

9 MAR 11 @ 07:00AM BY LAURA KEYS

“AFTER 15 days and more than 145 submissions, the advisory hearing committee on the former Port Phillip Woollen Mills has retired to consider its decision.

The hearing wrapped up at Altona Civic Centre on Friday with closing submissions from all the major stakeholders, including developers Nelson Place Village and Hobsons Bay Council.

The final days of the hearing were reserved for locals and Save Williamstown pleaded its case against the proposed 13-storey development last Wednesday.

Spokeswomen Charmian Gaud and Suzanne Orange focused on heritage, history, infrastructure, transport, tourism, industry and safety.

Advisory committee chairman John Keaney asked the

women what they thought of suggestions by previous submitters, such as Williamstown MP Wade Noonan, who proposed smaller-scale residential development on the site. Ms Gaud said parts of the site were “not suitable for anything but business”.

“Three storeys is the appropriate height for the site in areas that are not subject to safety issues,” Ms Orange agreed.

Save Williamstown called master mariner Captain Bill Korevaar as an expert witness in their case and Capt Korevaar said it would be unsafe to permit high-density residential housing within 1km of the Port Gellibrand tanker terminal because of the risks posed by tanks and ships.

Architect Andrew Davidson also appeared for Save Williamstown and said developers had “alienated large sections” of the community with their plans. “The unique character of Williamstown as a well-preserved seaside village within the metro area should be maintained as a priority,” his testimony read.

Planning expert Dr Ken Marriott spoke of his concerns about the amount of public space allocated by the developer.....

<http://hobsons-bay-leader.whereilive.com.au/news/story/panel-to-mull-on-williamstown-project/>

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## SAVE **WILLIAMSTOWN**



### New city-edge suburb part of plan to curb urban sprawl

**Thursday, 10 March 2011**

The Age

Marika Dobbin and Jason Dowling

March 10, 2011 - 12:09AM

“THE BAILLIEU government is considering plans for a carbon- neutral, high-density suburb of 12,000 on Footscray Road, in West Melbourne.

In the latest long-discussed inner city housing project , work to turn old rail yards into a more than \$6 billion neighbourhood known as E-Gate could begin as early as 2014. It would be Victoria's largest development since Docklands.

The government confirmed E-Gate would be the first big part of its plan to shift urban growth from Melbourne's fringes to its heart.

Major Projects Minister Denis Napthine said work would begin on the 20-hectare E-Gate site before a bigger project

on land zoned light-industrial at Fishermans Bend near the Westgate Bridge, for which The Age revealed plans last month.

Advertisement

A third proposal is to use land around Richmond train station for housing. The Age has obtained an exclusive proposal for the new E-Gate suburb, which would have open spaces at its centre.....

<http://www.theage.com.au/action/printArticle?id=2223991>

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### Baillieu defends meetings with Urbis

**Thursday, 10 March 2011**

The Age

Marika Dobbin March 10, 2011 - 12:04AM

PREMIER Ted Baillieu has defended his government over its meetings with developers of a 140-metre skyscraper proposed for the parliamentary precinct that would eclipse the adjacent Windsor Hotel redevelopment.

He said it was appropriate for Planning Minister Matthew Guy and his department to have met representatives of the developers from consultancy Urbis recently, ahead of a formal permit application being lodged.

"We have never had a problem with pre-application meetings," he said. "I think it's important in those situations that it is all documented and that will be a distinguishing feature of this government."

<http://www.theage.com.au/action/printArticle?id=2223980>

Question from Save Williamstown  
“Did Urbis discuss the Former Port Phillip Woollen Mill Site  
when they met with the Minister for Planning?”

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### Promises by the Liberal Candidate for Williamstown at the last election

**Friday, 11 March 2011**

In the election campaign in November 2010, the following Media Release was issued by David McConnell and authorised by the Liberal Party.

Save Williamstown is hoping that this represents a commitment from the Liberal Party to stop high rise development. The Liberals gained a considerable swing in Williamstown in a seat which is becoming more marginal every election.

-----  
"Liberal candidate for Williamstown, David McConnell, has begun distributing thousands of leaflets across the electorate to highlight Labor's planning laws which are set to unleash a rash of high rise developments not in keeping with the character of the area.

"John Brunby and Justin Madden are committed to

destroying the character of Williamstown, through their ill advised planning laws," he said.

"While Labor's local representative has gone missing in serious discussion about what it means for the future amenity of the local area."

"As a local resident I know the community do not want rampant high rise developments and my lettetbox campaign highlights our commitment to oppose these bad laws." David McConnell said local opposition to Labor's high rise development policies were being raised with him consistently as he moved across the electorate, letter-boxing, door-knocking and taking to people at local train stations.

"The poor state of the public transport system, Labor's neglect of basic services in the West and unease at the prospect of major high rise developments in our neighbourhood are the three issues people regularly raise with me," he said.

"I will continue to highlight the real differences between our plan to fix the problems and build for the future, with Labor's 11 years of broken promises and neglect of the West."

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### Port Phillip Woollen Mill: Late challenge on zoning

**Friday, 11 March 2011**

Hobsons Bay Weekly

BY GOYA DMYTRYSHCHAK

09 Mar, 2011 01:00 AM

“AN 11th-hour submission has challenged the intervention by former planning minister Justin Madden in Williamstown's Port Phillip Woollen Mill site.

Michael Nicholas and Associates, representing various parties, has lodged a late submission with Planning Panels Victoria, questioning Mr Madden's power to rezone the site and appoint a planning advisory committee to decide the scope of future development.

In May 2009, Hobsons Bay Council voted unanimously to inform Mr Madden - for the second time that year - that it did not want his intervention.

In December 2009, the council refused to rezone the mill to residential, saying a developer's proposal for four towers up

to 16 storeys high should go back to the drawing board.

In March last year Mr Madden reversed that decision, rezoning the land from industrial and special use to residential, claiming that the council had stalled.

The late submission says Mr Madden failed to consider the state and regional significance of the port, in particular the shipyard, and relied on misconceived assertions to back his intervention.

It goes on to say that if the council had supported the rezoning unconditionally, as implied by the minister, then the normal processes were well on their way to achieving the developer's goals and the intervention would not be required.

The developer, Nelson Place Village, now wants to build 412 dwellings on the mill site, ranging from three to 13 storeys.

Department of Planning and Community Development spokesman Seamus Haugh said the advisory committee had received the late submission and would consider it when reporting to the planning minister.

Save Williamstown spokesman Godfrey Moase said an important principle was at stake.

"We don't see why there should be one rule for a few wealthy owners and developers and another for residents." .....

<http://www.hobsonsbayweekly.com.au/news/local/news/general/port-phillip-woollen-mill-late-challenge-on-zoning/2098405.aspx#>

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



Suspected Invisible Vapour Cloud causes evacuation at BAE Shipyard Williamstown

Tuesday, 15 March 2011

***SOME KEEN TO PROFIT FROM DEVELOPMENT AND WHO WANT TO ALLOW OVER 1000 NEW RESIDENTS IN HIGH-RISE HIGH-DENSITY RESIDENTIAL TOWERS WITHIN 300M OF MOBIL'S MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY AT POINT GELLIBRAND IN WILLIAMSTOWN HAVE SAID: THAT SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN WAS BEING ALARMIST; AND THAT OUR EXPERTS SHOULD BE IGNORED BECAUSE THEY LIVE IN WILLIAMSTOWN. ONLY 10 DAYS AGO WE WARNED THE PORT PHILLIP WOOLLEN MILL ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE DANGERS OF FUEL***

## ***IMPORTATION AT THE POINT GELLIBRAND MAJOR HAZARD FACILITY.***

Well we are REALLY raising our concerns this weekend, because adjacent to the MHF at BAE Systems Shipyards, there was a need to evacuate on Friday 11th March - one week after the Public Hearings in the Port Phillip Woollen Mill Advisory Committee closed.

We have it on good authority that on Friday manufacturing at BAE was shut down from about 11.30am for 2 hrs due to an invisible vapour cloud scare when gas was smelt on site.

Fire trucks attended BAE and then moved to Mobil. We understand a shipping tanker was docked at the Point Gellibrand facility at the same time. Both sites evacuated! Save Williamstown wishes to emphasise that Mobil have advised that the incident was not related to their operations.

This is exactly what we have been warning of AND WE ARE NOT SCARE MONGERING just talking about credible risk.

There are very good reasons why Western Australia has a 1000 metre Buffer Distance for Fuel Importation AND VICTORIA should take these necessary buffers seriously. Like Kurnell in NSW there should be a moratorium on development in the peninsula of Williamstown. Increased population increases evacuation numbers and threatens the safety of existing residents and workers.

Former Minister Justin Madden made an irrational decision in accepting advice from public servants in his Facilitation Branch to make the Former Port Phillip Woollen Mill Site Residential 1. The Hobsons Bay Industrial Land Management Strategy for Precinct 20 could not have been clearer in recommending a mixed use (Business/Commercial with some Residential on Ann St) outcome but the then minister ignored even his own advice about the protection of the ports. National/State significant industries needed to have an input into an Outline Development Plan and not be constrained by a non-negotiable residential zoning. Following this foolish decision the community and many others have had to spend thousands of dollars trying to tell the Government that a residential outcome for this site was not uncontested and was in fact dangerous.

The Williamstown Peninsula Community needs a Risk Assessment and a Plan in the same way that the communities in the bush need a plan after the 2009 bushfires.

We need urgent responses from the new government and the authorities about the issues we have raised. The MFB report into Friday's incident should be considered by all the relevant authorities and the community.

AND

The Chairman of the Port Phillip Woollen Mill Advisory Committee John Keaney should be aware of this occurrence and he should be unconstrained by the "terms of reference" and recommend to the new planning minister Matthew Guy, that the irregular Residential Zoning be removed and a risk assessment of the peninsula of Williamstown be conducted before any decisions about planning outcomes and tools. This isn't a matter for developers to just go ahead with developing within the buffer distances of a Major Hazard Facility and industries of National/State significance. Getting a DPO approved which excludes third party rights of not only the community but the industries too would be an irresponsible outcome.

WE NEED A PROPER PROCESS BEYOND ANY POLITICAL INFLUENCE.

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## SAVE **WILLIAMSTOWN**



### Vapour Cloud prompts alert

**Wednesday, 16 March 2011**

Hobsons Bay Weekly

16 March 2011

INBRIEF

Newport firefighters went to the Williamstown shipyard and Mobil's Gellibrand site on Friday after reports of a gaseous smell and vapour cloud. The smell had dissipated by the time the fire-fighters arrived about 11.30am

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### Melbourne growth got away from us: Labor

**Monday, 21 March 2011**

The Age

Josh Gordon

March 18, 2011

"DANIEL Andrews has conceded Labor lost government because it failed to meet community expectations as Melbourne's runaway population growth "got away from us". The Opposition Leader said Labor needed to face the fact "we could have done more and we could have done better" to boost services and help households tackle daily challenges.

"People across the community have expectations about quality of services, about pressures on them in their own household, and I think clearly we failed to meet those expectations," Mr Andrews told The Age.

He said a failure to properly manage Victoria's strong population growth contributed to Labor's defeat at last year's state election,

as services failed to keep pace with Melbourne's expansion.

"We just couldn't keep up," he said.

Melbourne's population growth has outstripped other state capitals for the past eight years. Cost-of-living concerns, public transport and law and order were key issues in the lead-up to November's election....."

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/melbourne-growth-got-away-from-us-labor-20110317-1byyu.html>

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# SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



## Super tower to top Eureka: Grollo

**Monday, 21 March 2011**

The Age

Jason Dowling

March 19, 2011 - 12:00AM

“A NEW skyscraper eclipsing the 297-metre Eureka Tower, Melbourne’s tallest building, is likely to be built in the city in the next five years, according to Eureka’s builder Daniel Grollo.....  
....Last week The Saturday Age reported concerns from the National Trust and planning experts about the threat to important Melbourne sites, such as St Paul’s Cathedral and the parliamentary precinct, from new developments exceeding discretionary height limits. But Mr Grollo said there were compelling arguments for more tall buildings in Melbourne....”

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/super-tower-to-top-eureka->

grollo-20110318-1c0qu.html

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN

... storage tanks east of the site. ... Shipyard and Port of  
 14. Given the length of time that has passed since the initial amendment request, it is appropriate for you to consider options to advance the amendment. Council's request for a meeting with adjoining parties is unlikely to result, on its own, in Council seeking to exhibit the amendment. Any issues could be considered as part of a future planning permit process. Adjoining land owners had their concerns heard through the C33 Panel process and DPCD is of the view that residential development of the site is not contested – merely the scale and design of development.

OPTIONS

Victorian Councils could face more class actions for bad planning decisions - but what about when the Minister calls it in....

**Saturday, 26 March 2011**

If WorkSafe, Mobil, Port of Melbourne, Council and the EPA all advised against the suitability of land for residential development in giving evidence to an Advisory Committee set up to advise the minister on planning controls. ie part of the land zoned residential was not suitable for residential dwellings particularly high-rise high-density towers up to 50m being built within the buffer zone for a Major Hazard Facility ... then who, in the event of an major incident, would be legally responsible for payouts to residents impacted by that planning decision?

In the case of the Former Port Phillip Woollen Mill Site the former Minister Justin Madden, on the advice of top public servants (see picture insert above) in the Department of Planning and Community Development, used his powers to

exempt himself from the provisions of the P&EAct. He called-in the Hobsons Bay Planning Scheme Amendment application (C75) and made the whole site residential on the request of the developer Nelson Place Village, with no input from Hobsons Bay Council. In that scenario who would be responsible for damages if there were a major incident at Point Gellibrand involving the Tank Farm or Fuel Importation and which had a detrimental impact on new and existing residents. The article below shows that planning decisions are no longer exempt from damages....

The Age  
Jason Dowling and Adrian Lowe  
March 26, 2011 - 12:05AM

## Gas-leak win threat to councils

“VICTORIAN councils could face more class actions for bad planning or waste management decisions after a landmark \$23.5 million settlement for residents of Cranbourne's gas-affected Brookland Greens estate.

Hundreds of residents of the estate - who were forced to evacuate after dangerously high levels of methane gas were detected in their homes in September 2008, due to methane gas leaks from a former landfill nearby - are poised to collect up to \$130,000 each as part of the proposed Supreme Court settlement.

The payout would be funded by the Casey Council and the state Environment Protection Authority.

The settlement has almost certainly averted the need for a three-month trial involving 14 defendants. But proceedings will continue, with Casey Council and the EPA pursuing recovery claims.

Victorian Ratepayers Association president Jack Davis said the settlement was "a just decision" and predicted more class actions. "I think it will sit as an example; there are plenty of tips," he said.

Law firm Slater & Gordon, which launched the class action, says the case should be a warning to developers about the environmental hazards of building on contaminated land.

A senior local government expert, who did not wish to be named, said there were "plenty of lawyers out there looking for an opportunity".

But he added he expected it would take another "extreme case" like Brookland Greens to get a class action off the ground.....”

<http://www.theage.com.au/victoria/gasleak-win-threat-to-councils-20110325-1ca4w.html>

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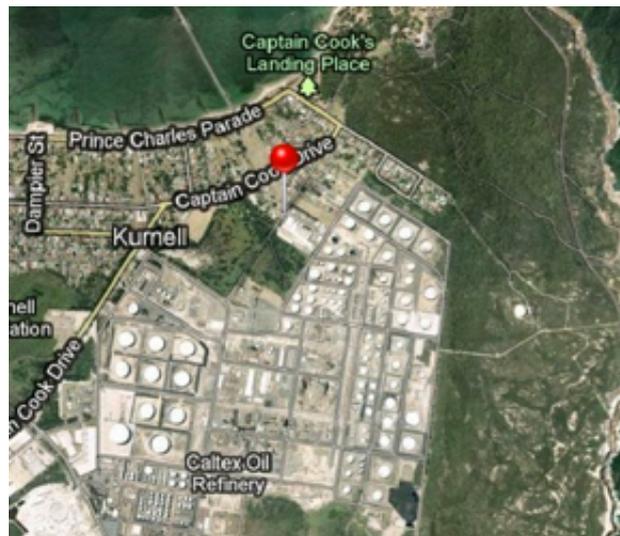
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# SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



## 230 Residents near Kurnell evacuated to 800m - fire risk near refinery

Friday, 25 March 2011

Sydney Morning Herald

Stephanie Gardiner

March 25, 2011 - 10:36AM

## Chemical fire at Sydney plant contained

"Firefighters have contained a large chemical fire which destroyed the contents of a factory south of Sydney, forcing 250 locals to evacuate.

The fire broke out about 6am at a water purifier manufacturing plant on Cook Street, Kurnell...

...NSW Fire and Rescue spokesman Chris Bishop said the fire was under control about 9am.

"It's greatly diminished, but we've still got all the crews on the

scene," he said.

Authorities evacuated everyone within an 800-metre radius of the factory.

"At this stage, we've still maintained the exclusion zone until it's totally extinguished," Mr Bishop said.

About 100 firefighters, including several Rural Fire Service crews, fought the blaze....."

<http://www.smh.com.au/nsw/chemical-fire-at-sydney-plant-contained-20110325-1c8xi.html>

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# SAVE **WILLIAMSTOWN**



## Williamstown's social housing towers to stay

**Tuesday, 22 March 2011**

Hobsons Bay Leader

21 MAR 11 @ 07:00AM BY LAURA KEY

“RESIDENTS of Williamstown’s two social housing towers will not lose their homes after State Housing Minister Wendy Lovell confirmed the Government had no intention of selling or developing them.

Western Metropolitan Liberal MP Bernie Finn raised the idea of selling the towers and turning them into luxury houses in 2008 and was pushing the plan as recently as December.

But in a letter to Western Metropolitan Greens MP Colleen Hartland on February 25, Ms Lovell said Mr Finn’s view “does not represent the view of the Government” and that “there is no plan to close and sell Floyd Lodge and Nelson Place”. Mr Finn said while he still thought the plan had merit, he would not be pushing ahead with it. Ms Hartland, a former aged care worker

at Floyd Lodge, said it was “wonderful news”.....”

<http://hobsons-bay-leader.whereilive.com.au/news/story/williamstowns-social-housing-towers-to-stay/>

It is good to see State Housing Minister Wendy Lovell, whose family background is from Williamstown and who has been supportive of the Save Williamstown campaign, offering sensible and sensitive social housing policies.

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## SAVE WILLIAMSTOWN



### MP's household opposed halted development

**Monday, 21 March 2011**

The Age

Reid Sexton and Marika Dobbin

March 21, 2011 - 12:02AM

"THE household of a senior Coalition politician officially objected to the construction of a controversial residential tower, several months before it became the first development put on hold by the new state government...

....The Age reported last month that influential businessmen who live at 1 Albert Road - dubbed the tower of power - had campaigned against the proposed 88-metre development. This included former Crown Casino chief Lloyd Williams, trucking magnate Lindsay Fox and Grand Prix chairman and former Liberal party treasurer Ron Walker....

....On January 27, three days before its fate was to be decided by VCAT, Ms Coote's upper-house colleague and Planning

Minister Matthew Guy introduced a two-year ban on any development in the area exceeding 60 metres.”

<http://www.theage.com.au/action/printArticle?id=2242408>

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