

2/17/21 2003 Armidale Express

# Landfill site decision near

THE END could finally be in sight for the 10-year search for a new landfill site for Armidale.

A company commissioned by Armidale Dumaresq Council to evaluate and rate nine identified sites has presented its findings.

The draft report by Maunsell Australia Pty Ltd is now on public display and submissions will close on January 27.

Maunsells, an environmental team specialising in services for the waste management, water, mining and environmental management industries, will then report back to council for a final decision.

Following are the nine identified sites ranked in order:

1 (371) Sherraloy, 12km east of Armidale, owned by DW & GM Crisp, KP & DA Waters

2 (344) Miningvale Road, 16km east of Armidale, owned by Mrs J Erratt

3 (328) Tilbuster, 19km north of Armidale, owned by Neil Clayton

4 (326) Waioma, 35km east of Armidale, owned by MM & HA Stewart

5 (306) Annaleey, 19km north of Armidale, owned by Neil Clayton

6 (298) Metz Quarry, 25km east of Armidale, owned by Boral Quarries

7 (288) Bannaweera, 36km southwest of Armidale, owned by DN & AE Press

8 (256) East Mihi, 31km south of Armidale, owned by David and Patricia Frizell

8 (256) Pinaroo, 26km northwest of Armidale, owned by Al Pearson

Maunsells concluded that the Sherraloy site, 80ha bordering two properties, would be the most appropriate for a regional landfill.

"This does not necessarily mean that it is the best available site in the region, nor does it mean that it is an ideal site," the report said.

The long-running issue again came before council last week, and again drew comment from councillors.

Cr Laurie Knight said enough time had been spent on assessment of the sites, adding that the recommendations had been 'judiciously considered and professionally arrived at.'

But Cr King suggested that council 'toss the whole lot out the window and start again.'

"Forget about holes in the ground," she said.

"Coffs Harbour have come up with a most efficient and economical way of burning everything, except for fridge and car bodies, and we should look at this thing in a different light.

"If we go back to public submissions again it's going to make us look like a pack of idiots."

Cr King said council had 'spent nine years fiddling with this thing, and we've spent \$150,000 to \$200,000 and achieved absolutely nothing.'

"I'm very angry, we have not advanced one inch... it's a total farce."