



2:55 PM  
5 October 2006  
Ref: OTC 348A

Mr Jim Levy  
General Manager  
Eurobodalla Shire Council  
PO Box 99  
Moruya  
NSW 2537

Good afternoon Jim,

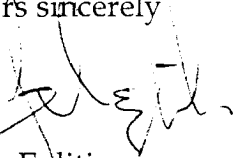
I am writing to you to try and get some resolve to a problem we are having with one of your plumbing inspectors and his boss. We have written to Mr Paul Scholze twice, once on the 20<sup>th</sup> of July and again on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September and still to this date have not received any written confirmation of what council is going to do about the requirement of putting in leaf guard to gain a plumbing final. We had a phone conversation, where I rang Paul Scholze on or about the 21<sup>st</sup> of August to see what was happening and he acknowledged that he had not read our letter as yet. We are still waiting for a formal response. We had then rung a Mr Elik Kloczko who was asked to show us were it said in the council's DCP that a leaf guard had to be installed that Mr Paul Scholze was insisting on. He was unable to do so. He stated that a "leaf eater" had to be used. We explained that this system allows water to flood back into the house when strong winds are blowing and that our system was a similar system that stopped leaves from entering the rainwater tank. Mr Elik Kloczko then said, that if we were to use a galvanised sieve wire, that we would need to get a Hydraulic Engineer to certify that it would do the job of not allowing the leaves to enter the rainwater tank. We find this some-what amazing that we would have to go through this process to prove that a simple piece of sieved galvanised wire needs a Hydraulic Engineer to certify that it stop leaves from entering a pipe. We have gone through the "Design guidelines for rainwater tanks where an existing reticulated water supply exist" and cannot find anywhere where it says that leaf guards have to be installed. The only reference we can find to them is on drawing 4400 Figure 4 where it mentions " Leaf Eater Rainhead or similar". We have "similar" as stated in our initial letter to Mr. Scholze and repeated, in part, below

1. A wire mesh has been securely installed at all downpipes to stop leafs from going into the rainwater tank. These are to be cleared and gutters maintained on a regular basis by the owner. This mesh will not allow the leaf litter to enter the downpipes and allow them to be blocked at the bends. The rainwater reuse system also has a first flush and a filter installed. If a leaf guard has to be installed can you please give us the name of the one that is recommended by council? It is our experience of 25 years of building that no current system on the market does not block or require ongoing

maintenance. If a leaf guard system has to be regularly cleared then what difference does it make, if so does the gutter? We have spoken to a large number of suppliers who sell such products and none of them guarantee that they will not block. We see that this more of a hazard than a safety requirement. Can you please supply us with the relevant regulation that states that leaf-guard has to be used? And that what we are doing is not sufficient.

Jim, as you can understand, this matter has now been going on for over 3 months and has gone nowhere. Your staff have not replied to us or addressed our concerns in any way and have been off-handed and very unprofessional in their attitude, response and manner. It is now at the stage that we seek your intervention to get this simple issue resolved in a timely manner. We are waiting to get a final payment on this project and we look forward to receiving your earliest response.

Yours sincerely



John Eglitis  
General Manager  
One Tree Constructions