TO COMMISIONER OF THE ENQUIRY INTO WINGECARRIBEE SHIRE COUNCIL

To Whom It May Concern,

It was stated in evidence that Duncan Gair in an interview with myself on 2ST had defamed a resident of the southern highlands in regards to a tape recording that would be played at Wingecarribee Shire Council to senior staff members. That piece of evidence was false. The mayor described how a person had called Council in regards to Development Application costs and how a journalist had run a story in a Sydney newspaper about Council not intending to pay these costs for bushfire victims. At no time was an individuals name mentioned or the circumstance where and individual could be recognised mentioned on air.

In 40 years of broadcasting, I have always been enforced the rules in regards to the potential of defamation and always warn those who are about to go on air the ramifications of such action. I did this with the mayor and he complied fully with this request. After the interview was aired there was no request for a copy of the audio or written transcript of the Mayor's interview by any parties, which is the normal case if someone feels that they have been defamed. I have been broadcasting in this area for over 22 years and I can certainly say there where a number of falsehoods in evidence during the enquiry from members of the public. I have chosen to highlight this one because it goes directly to the eroding of Duncan Gair the Mayor's reputation.

Kind regards,

Graeme Bay

2ST Breakfast Announcer Bong Bong Street, Bowral