



Flying from Tasmania via Macquarie Street, Sydney to what's left of Leard State Forest near Narrabri

- This expansion poses a major risk to local water resources: it will seriously reduce groundwater beneath local creeks and that used by farmers to water their stock. Whitehaven has already been prosecuted for stealing water at the Maules Ck coal mine at the height of the last drought. – The expansion will harm the local farming community and further damage the region socially. – It will likely further empty the district of families through alienation of productive land, and create dangerous dust pollution and escalating noise for surrounding areas, whilst creating division and conflict, and exacerbate the housing crisis in the region.
- This project will clear over 500 hectares of key foraging habitat for the Swift Parrot, despite only 600 of them remaining in the wild, and will push the species closer to extinction. This is a key site for Swifties and shouldn't be put at risk. – The project will also clear a further 428 hectares of the beautiful Leard State Forest, resulting in 46% of the State Forest having been cleared in total for three coal mines.
- Whitehaven Coal has a disgraceful compliance record. In the last 10 years, it has been found guilty of many breaches of the law, including many multiple offences. – This proposal is

designed to 'bank' an approval now before climate laws are strengthened further in response to the rapidly escalating impacts of global warming in the form of more extreme weather events. The NSW Government shouldn't be approving a coal mine expansion now that will not even start until 2034.

- Following the recent NSW Court of Appeal decision on the Mt Pleasant coal mine, Whitehaven Coal should be required to fully assess the impacts of the downstream emissions from the project on the local environment and community. This requires proper attribution science to be conducted. None of this has been done in the current EIS.
- The direct emissions from the mining process itself, of over 3 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions, will completely undermine NSW achieving climate targets. NSW communities are already experiencing devastating impacts from global warming but this project will produce an extra 238 million tonnes of total greenhouse gas pollution.

