

29/10/2025

## **Personal Submission to NSW Department of Planning Regarding the proposed expansion of Peabody's Wilpinjong Coal Mine. Mod 3 – Pit 8 Extension**

My name is David Anderson, I am a property owner at 310 White Cedars Rd, Kains Flat. NSW 2850.

I wish to take this opportunity to voice my concerns regarding potential impacts of this expansion to the existing Wilpinjong coal mine in the vicinity of my property.

My family has had ownership of this property for over forty years. In that time, my family and I have grown to greatly appreciate the biodiversity of this area. Having spent many years exploring the Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, the Goulburn River National Park, "Drip gorge", Ferntree Gully and Ganguddy (Dunns Swamp). As an avid birder, I particularly enjoy the rich diversity of birdlife these areas offer. Both The Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve and the Goulburn River National Park are very dear to my family and friends. These areas offer a vast array of bird and wildlife species. The Munghorn boasts more than 150 different species of birds.

My key concerns are:

1. Bio diversity impacts to the region. Not only the mine site, also the Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve, Goulburn River National Park, surrounding bushland and farms. This disturbance is not a one off. But for the entire time of the mine's operation. Dust, noise, lighting, de-watering and ground water disturbance will all impact negatively on the surrounding environment.
2. The modification assessment needs "new project" status, enabling a rigorous process including an Environmental Impact Statement and independent oversight. Particularly, considering Peabody have an exploration licence that not only covers this expansion. But includes a substantially greater area taking in the Wollar valley all the way to the township of Wollar.
3. Cumulative impacts of mining in the region needs to be considered. The two adjacent mines, Moorlaben and Ulan are in the process of lodging substantial expansions to their operations. Moorlaben with open cut 3 and underground 4 (approved). Ulan with modification 8. Aside from these coal mines. Approval has been given to Bowdens lead, zinc and silver mine in nearby Lue. The Mudgee region is becoming an ever increasing mine site.
4. Likely negative impacts to the Mudgee region tourism and liveability. The regions status as an inland tourism hotspot will be compromised as it becomes known as an ever expanding mine.
5. This coal expansion flies in the face of the NSW government major commitment to renewable transition in the region, by way of the Orana Central West Renewable Energy Zone.
6. With region wide work force shortages. The mine expansion will be in direct competition with the renewable energy zone projects for skilled workers.

7. Additional emissions of 25mT are only multiplying this climate emergency. In economic terms any royalties generated by this expansion will be more than cancelled out through the remediation of future climate impacts to wider community.

Yours sincerely

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