

David Mooney

Project manager

The Dept of Planning and Infrastructure



PCU045902

Objection to Mangoola Coal Modification 6 of Project Approval 06_0014

I wish to object to the proposal to increase the mining intensity of Mangoola mine for the following reasons:

1) WATER ISSUES

The proposal involves the discharge of saline water into the Hunter River, a condition not permitted in the original application and which will, if allowed, result in an increase of saline levels in the river, already under stress from the cumulative effects of other mines discharging into the River. This is detrimental to the river environment and to downstream agriculture which will also suffer from having water diverted to mine usage.

2) AIR ISSUES

This mine is close to the town of Denman which does not have an air quality monitor and until the town is part of the Upper Hunter Air Quality Network the expansion of this mine (and any new mines) should be halted. At the present a concentration of mines in this area is resulting in the reduction of air quality for residents and of course adverse health effects in the short and long term. Communities further down the line are also at risk from emissions due to the increased number of uncovered coal wagons.

3) NOISE PROBLEMS

There will be both an increase in noise levels at the mine due to the expansion and as the production levels rise so does the level of rail traffic and rail noise, effecting not only residents in the Upper Hunter but those all the way down the line to Newcastle.

4) GENERAL PROBLEMS

Mining in the Upper Hunter occupies much of the arable land and the damage caused to the land is irreversible. Could this be the reason the initial application and this modification the issue of leaving post mining voids has not been addressed?

In addition extra coal production adds to the ever looming threat of disastrous climate change. Surely with the warning given by the Climate Change Commission that to avoid huge problems in the future it is time to phase out the extractive industries and invest heavily in renewable energy sources.

Wendy White

W. J. White
200 High St
East Maitland, 2323

