

I strongly object to Ulan Mod 8 for the following reasons:

I live downstream on the Goulbourn river a playground for locals to cool off over summer, a tourist camp area and a life line for property owners here and into the Hunter.

More than 30,000 tonnes of salt will be added to the river with discharge of water for an additional 6 years of Ulan Mine life to 2041. No critical and urgent full assessment of combined impact of release of water from 3 mines.

There should be a flow gauge between the mines and Coggan.

132ha tailings dam next to the river with no monitoring of leakage.

The loss of 26.5 million litres of water flow per year into the Talbragar River with no report of cumulative loss from current approvals.

Mod 8 is not an expansion it is an unassessed new project that falls outside the current mining lease. The final layout of surface infrastructure has not been determined so the plan is not finalised and should not have been submitted.

Ulan Mod 6 of which Mod 8 is an extension has been overturned by The Land and Environment court therefore this project should be withdrawn.

Additional ten more trains a day squealing to slow the load as they come downhill near homes adding delays at crossings and more coal dust in addition to the current unacceptable levels from 3 large mines.

Ulan Mod 8 will impact an additional 71 recorded Aboriginal cultural heritage sites and cumulative loss in the Ulan area has not been assessed.

The cumulative impacts of irreplaceable habitat for The Large-eared Pied Bat and Eastern Cave Bat has not been assessed. Ongoing loss of habitat and ecosystem for the critically endangered Regent honeyeater, Barking owl, Powerful owl and Koalas has not been assessed.

The Mudgee region has many opportunities for employment as current urgent requirements state. This project is not required for employment.

The Climate Emergency must be taken into account. Over 105 mt of additional greenhouse gas emissions with poor monitoring and reporting of methane emissions and no explanation for the alteration of baseline calculation for emissions in 2014 to below requirements.

In summary this report was ill-prepared, under assessed and not legally aligned with requirements.

This Modification is not necessary as we move into renewable energy.