

Bev Smiles  
3483 Ringwood Rd  
Wollar 2850

0428 817 282  
[bevsmiles85@gmail.com](mailto:bevsmiles85@gmail.com)

Department of Planning and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

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### **Submission of Objection**

Modification 6 – underground mining extension  
SSD MP08\_0184-Mod-6

I am a member of the Ulan Coal Community Consultative Committee. I have expressed concerns about this proposed expansion of mining operations during presentations, especially in regard to groundwater impacts.

The cumulative impact of the very large Ulan Mine operations that currently have approval to extract 22 mtpa until 2033 have not been adequately assessed in any of the modifications previously approved. The constant need to update and upgrade the groundwater model when the actual impacts have been experienced leaves no confidence in the approvals process.

The fact that there are currently job vacancies at Ulan Mine, as well as at the adjacent Moolarben and Wilpinjong Mines raises doubt on the validity of the economic analysis of the benefits that can be attributed to mining in the region.

The industry is experiencing a labour shortage along with all other sectors of the NSW and Australian economy. This creates competition between industries, often disadvantaging more essential services.

The competition for workforce and accommodation in the Mudgee region is now particularly evident in the context of the Central West Orana Renewable Energy Zone (CWOREZ). I am also a community representative on the CWOREZ Community Reference Group where the challenges of establishing more renewable energy sources in NSW are demonstrated as significant.

Ulan Coal Mine is within the boundary of the CWOREZ. It is not appropriate for the NSW Government to approve increased coal extraction while attempting to meet net

zero emissions targets. The proposed new transmission lines to service renewable energy generation projects cross Ulan Mine land. The NSW Government should be encouraging Glencore to invest in renewable energy projects on mine land rather than continuing to apply for additional coal extraction.

As a landholder downstream of the three large mining operations on the headwaters of the Goulburn River, I have been impacted by the massive changes to river flows. It is negligent for the NSW Government to approve any additional loss of base flows to river systems from the Ulan Mine operations.

I am also greatly affected by the noise and movements of coal trains on the Sandy Hollow rail line and do not support the extension of coal extraction at Ulan Mine by an additional 2 years.

I strongly object to the Modification 6 – underground mining extension and recommend that it be rejected.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "B. Smiles". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Bev Smiles