

Hunter Community Environment Centre.



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Modification 5 Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project

The Hunter Community Environment Centre objects to the proposed Modification 5 Bloomfield Colliery Continuation Project in the Cessnock LGA.

We primarily object on the grounds that the impact on biodiversity by the clearing of 50 hectares of Lower Hunter Spotted Gum Ironbark Forest (LHSGIF) on this site has not been adequately assessed, particularly the impact of further loss of LHSGIF for the the Regent Honeyeater species.

We refer you to the reports published by Barrington to Hawkesbury Climate Corridors Alliance in 2022.¹

It identifies the importance of the Hunter Valley Remnant Woodlands and Open Forests (LHSGIF) in the Blackhill/ Four Mile Creek area in the Werakata Dry Climate Corridor connecting regional climate change refugia for native species persistence in a warming world. (see page 36 in [Flora Extinction Report](#) and page 56 in [Fauna Extinction Report](#))

We consider that the proposal should be rejected due the biodiversity impacts, the inadequate assessment of the biodiversity impact and the greenhouse gas emissions it will contribute until 2035 which place it firmly outside the public interest.

¹ <https://www.hcec.org.au/climate-corridors>