

The Maules Creek coal mine has approval to operate until December 2034. This proposal to extend operations until 2044 is a cynical attempt to “bank” approval in anticipation of likely regulation of the industry in the near future,

The clearing of 500ha of Swift Parrot foraging area would cause an unacceptable threat to the survival of this endangered species. The additional clearing of 428ha of the Leard State Forest is totally unacceptable.

In June 2014 I participated in an overnight walk-in to the early stage of the development of the original Maules Creek Mine. The destruction I saw during that event has made me a life-long opponent of Whitehaven Coal, which has demonstrated on many occasions its disregard for the law and the consent conditions under which it is supposed to operate.

The already negative effects on water resources available to the local land holders would only be made much worse by allowing a further expansion.

The extra estimated greenhouse gas emissions that would be created can have only a massive negative effect on global warming, with the resulting serious weather events resulting.

This project must not be approved.