

14 November 2025

I oppose the proposed Glencore Ulan Coal Mine Expansion. The expansion should not be assessed as a “modification” because it falls entirely outside the current mining lease and thus differs substantially from the current approved mine, resulting in new previously unassessed environmental impacts. This expansion proposal should be assessed as a new project so that it receives full independent merit assessment. It should be noted that the project is an expansion of the recently approved Ulan Mod 6 that is under legal appeal.

Key points of objection:

1. Releases over 105 Mt of additional GHG emissions, coupled with poor monitoring and reporting of methane emissions by Glencore
2. Outside existing mine boundary with additional infrastructure disturbance - should be assessed as a new project
3. The construction of a large new tailings dam area of 132 ha within a revegetated, rehabilitated old open cut pit next to Goulburn River risks leakage of toxic contaminants
4. It is located wholly west of the Great Dividing Range within the Murray Darling Basin - loss of flows to Talbragar River, tributary of Macquarie River feeding into significant Macquarie Marshes
5. Extended water releases into Goulburn River increases salt load downstream to the Hunter
6. Loss of Aboriginal cultural heritage and spiritual landscape for Wiradjuri Nation – impacting 71 known sites, including rock art
7. Disturbs an additional 1743 ha of sandstone escarpment, caves, overhangs and critical habitat for the nationally threatened Large-eared Pied Bat, Eastern Cave Bat, Regent Honeyeater, Koala and critically endangered Box Gum Woodland. It adds to the cumulative impact on these species across 3 mines in the region.
8. The final layout of surface infrastructure is not yet determined – the mine plan is not finalised
9. Undermining 17 private properties directly impacts 4 houses and 6 private bores
10. Increases social impacts, loss of farm water and ongoing disturbance of rural way of life
11. This project is not needed to provide regional jobs – there is a huge workforce shortage for renewable energy projects and other industries in the Central West

On this basis, please reject the proposed Glencore Ulan Coal Mine Expansion.

Thank you for considering this submission.