

NSW INLAND COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN'S ASSOCIATION
President Steven Alexander
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NSW 2648

RE: Modification to Lake Cowal Gold Mine Project

We object to the modifications to this project

1. Dust is a major environmental concern for Lake Cowal including the fishermen's health as we camp on the shores of the lake and work out on the water.
2. Fishers are driving long distances to work at Lake Cowal and to transport their product to markets, complying with all the government regulations, this is dangerous when fishers are kept awake all night because of noise, lights and dust.
3. There have been no studies on the impact concussion has in regards to yabby health both in the lake and in the water table ect.
4. The water is receding faster than in the past, the aquifers must be damaged.
5. Mine staff have interfered with commercially set yabby traps and taken yabbies without authorization, it is our understanding that the police and fisheries compliance officers would not get involved. The mine has taken the law into their own hands keeping fishers out of a huge area in Lake Cowal with no consultation or compensation for the loss of our traditional fishing area.
6. Fishers received a letter from DPI stating that there are safety concerns due to blasting and the possibility of rocks and falling debris in the area, this is of great concern for fishers.
7. We wish to lodge a formal complaint against Barrick Gold for not giving fishers the opportunity to comment before the initial start of the project, we were never notified that this mine would have a detrimental effect on our lively hood and put fishers lives at risk.