

18th October 2017

**Executive Director
Mr. David Kitto
Department of Planning and Environment**

Dear Mr. Kitto

Re: Maules Creek coal mine Project Application Number: 10_0138 Mod 4

The proponent Whitehaven Coal, are seeking to remove a section from Condition 12a, Schedule 3 from Planning Approval 10_0138 regarding the Maules Creek coal mine. That is the deletion of the wording and requirement to-

“ensure that all equipment and noise control measures deliver sound power levels that are equal to or better than the sound power levels identified in the EA, and correspond to best practice or the application of the best available technology economically achievable;”

I object to the Mod 4 and Whitehaven Coal removing a specific requirement for continuous environmental noise improvement by maintaining or reducing mining equipment sound power.

This will be very detrimental to our community as personally we have experience excessive noise pollution at our home on many occasions.

I believe that the company is required to do “continuous improvements using best available technology”, so why are they seeking a change that would remove specific requirements.

A Mandatory Noise Audit revealed that in 2015 and 2016 again, many of the fixed plant at MCCM were unable to fulfil the promised noise levels that were provided to the Department to gain approval.

If this condition comes out, what conditions would be imposed to give people within the community confidence that removing condition 12 (a) will not lead to an increase in noise impacts?

Why is this information not available?

With expansions plans going ahead, we need MORE, NOT LESS protection against the mine.

The Department of Planning have already let down the community at Maules Creek by ignoring community concerns and objections prior to the mine approval.

Therefore, this Modification should be refused as the company's performance does not justify the changes proposed.

I believe that this will be bad for my family and strongly urge support the rejection of this Modification 4.

Yours sincerely

