

Submission: EIS - Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the EIS for the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project.

I **object** to this development for the following reasons:

1. **874Mt CO2-e** is an enormous GHGE footprint from a single mining project.
2. This proposal seeks to mine thermal coal until 2048, which is unacceptable.

Earlier this month United Nations chief António Guterres told leaders of the world's largest economies, including Australia, that they must present plans for the phase-out of thermal coal use by 2030, saying it is essential to meet the Paris Agreement goals and protect future generations.

*"I urge all OECD countries to commit to phasing out coal by 2030 and for non-OECD countries to do so by 2040. Science tells us this is essential to meet the Paris Agreement goals and protect future generations."*¹

3. There do not appear to be any plans in the proposal for carbon capture and sequestration of any of the **860 Mt CO2-e** Scope 3 emissions. Nor are carbon offsets proposed.
4. There do not appear to be any concrete, measurable, timebound strategies / plans proposed to reduce the **14.17 Mt CO2-e** of Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions that will result from this development. Nor have offsets been proposed for those Scope 1 and Scope 2 emissions which cannot be avoided or mitigated.

NSW DPIE's final assessment report for this project should include:

1. An assessment of all emissions reduction that can be expected from 'conditioning' an approved development. Will conditions that require all 'reasonable and feasible' measures to reduce GHGs actually reduce emissions at all? If so, by what volume / % of GHGEs per abatement measure proposed?

¹ <https://reneweconomy.com.au/un-demands-rich-countries-end-deadly-addiction-to-coal-by-2030/#:~:text=UN%20chief%20demands%20Australia%20ends%20%E2%80%9Cdeadly%20addiction%E2%80%9D%20to%20coal%20by%202030&text=First%2C%20cancel%20all%20global%20coal,to%20do%20so%20by%202040.>

2. Clarification regarding how much coal will be burnt in NSW and how much exported overseas?
3. A statement from NSW DPIE about when NSW DPIE expects coal-fired power generation to cease in NSW
4. Advice from NSW DPIE about how much of the carbon budget it thinks remains for 1.5 degree and 2 degree pathways?
5. Advice to NSW IPC regarding carbon offsets for this proposal
6. An assessment of the significance of adding 0.54 Mt CO₂-e per year in Scope 1 and 2 emissions to the NSW GHG inventory. As NSW gets closer and closer to net zero, 0.54 Mt CO₂-e per year will become a bigger and bigger percentage of the total NSW GHG inventory.
7. A statement on whether or not NSW DPIE has sought advice from the NSW Climate Change Council on the likely impact on the NSW environment of adding MPOP's GHGs to the atmosphere?