

Macarthur Branch

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Submission re: Dendrobium Mine Extension Project

NPA Macarthur objects to this proposed mine extension.
Our overall reasons for objection are:

1. This is an application for a development consent as this is not part of the original 2001 approval. In other words it's a new mine. There is no reason that this should be given, based on all the knowledge gained re past and continuing damage and impacts to water security.
2. South 32 has alternative areas to source coal which involves NW expansion of the current Bulli Seam operation. These are rural areas that would not impact drinking water supplies or major waterways.
3. We are aware that Water NSW were not consulted re the proposal by South 32 to compensate them for the agreed volume of surface water diverted from the Sydney drinking water catchment and that they will oppose this.
4. South 32 have no social licence to undertake this expansion which will further compromise the hydrology of the catchment and jeopardise the water security of approx. 600,000 people in the Illawarra and Greater Macarthur regions. This is not even taking into account the projected population growth in those areas.

Please accept this as a preliminary submission only. We intend to put in a fuller, supplementary submission after the IEPMC final report is made public.

Yours faithfully,
Julie Sheppard

For NPA Macarthur Branch

17.9.19