Re : Wongawilli Coal mine - Wollongong Coal application to extend (MP 09_0161)

I object to the proposal on the following grounds:

Mining impacts are irreversible

The Nebo longwalls directly undermine wattle creek and little wattle creek, which feed the Cordeaux No2 Reservoir. The longwalls will come within 500m of the Cordeaux 2 Reservoir.

Company record not good

Wollongong coal cannot be trusted to mine our water catchment. In February 2014 mining was halted and has been inactive since the collapse.

The company's financial stability is questionable. The company is currently suspended from trading and has had senior management changes.

Incremental infiltration into water catchment areas

The Western Driveage does not have large resources of coal, however it will provide access to the Western Area which has extensive deposits of coal under special areas of the Avon and Nepean Dams. Sydney Catchment Authority (Dec 2010 p.4) objected to the mining of the Western Driveage expressing concerns of expansion into pristine parts of the Schedule 1 Metropolitan Special Area. It also warned that drivages may cause water in the Avon Dam to leak into previously mined areas.

The Sydney Water Supply needs to be protected

The cumulative impact of mining needs to be taken into consideration. In some areas it is triple seam mining which has drastic consequences for the future water supply of Sydney and the ecosystems that depend on the swamplands and tributary streams.