

## **Moolarben Mine Stage 1 Modification 9 (Part3AMod)**

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Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to object to the expansion of Moolarben Coal Mine. The reasons are as follows:

1. The company is an environmental vandal. They have already been prosecuted several times for breaching conditions of approval, and they have shown an inability to manage pollution incidents on numerous occasions. Why should they be given permission to continue this blatant disregard for Australia's environment?
2. The proposed expansion will involve clearing of woodland, including vegetation communities that are listed for protection under state and federal law.
3. This expansion will extract yet more coal to be burnt in power stations! The burning of coal is THE major cause of global warming. The impacts of global warming are yet to be realised, but include sea level rise, food shortages due to rainfall redistribution, ocean acidification causing loss of fish stocks, and massive refugee problems. These impacts will cost us Australians as well, including you and me.
4. The expansion will impact on the distribution of water in the region, both underground and surface water.
5. "The Drip" is an extremely important icon in the local area which will be severely impacted by this expansion. It has both aboriginal and European cultural significance and must be protected at all costs. Local people have long demanded that this be included in the Goulburn River National Park for protection.

I would just like to add that the continued extraction of coal has massive ramifications for the planet. Our generation exist on the planet as guardians for the protection of the environment for future generations. Extracting and burning coal is violating this guardianship by radically changing the environment that we were born into.

CO<sub>2</sub> levels in the atmosphere have now reached 400ppm, a level that has not been seen in the last 3 million years. Not only that, the CO<sub>2</sub> level is rapidly increasing, something that is unprecedented in the history of the planet. The last time the CO<sub>2</sub> levels were this high, sea levels were between 5 and 25 metres higher than they are now. How would this sea level rise impact on you and Australia, let alone the rest of the world?

If you think that this amount of sea level rise is impossible, consider this fact; if all the ice on Greenland and Antarctica were to melt, the sea level would rise by 75 metres. This is a scientifically verifiable statement. How much ice do you expect will melt? Coal extraction must cease.

Yours sincerely,

Ian McAdam