

Re: 17_8711 MOD 14 - Moolarben Coal Operations Stage 1 Mod 14, Stage 2 Mod 3

DATE: 2/12/2017

Lodge on line:

http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/index.pl?action=view_job&job_id=8711

Dear Sir/Madam,

We write to object to the above proposal to expand the Moolarben Coal Complex. The increase in carbon emissions, including fugitive emissions caused by increased coal production to 22 million tonnes pa until 2038 poses significant environmental, social and economic threats to the people of NSW.

We object to the increase in coal production for the following reasons:

- Moolarben Coal Operators propose to increase the amount of licenced water discharge into the Goulburn River to 20 million litres per day. This will further degrade water quality and cause additional ecological stress to the river.
- The cumulative impact of approved mine water discharges from nearby mines such as Ulan and Wilpinjong will alter the natural flow regime and discharge up to 30 tonnes of salt per day into the river system. Increasing the total salt load of the Goulburn River threatens the Goulburn River National Park and downstream water users.
- There has been no independent study of the cumulative impact of coal mining on the headwaters of the Goulburn River.
- Areas of two critically endangered ecological communities will be destroyed along with habitat for nine threatened bird species and five threatened microbat species recorded in the area. There is also loss of potential habitat for Koala, Regent Honeyeater and Brush-tailed Rock Wallaby.
- The Water Management Plan for previous approvals, required by October 2016, is still not available.

We urge that this extension be rejected outright.

Yours sincerely,

Brigid & Leonard Dowsett _____

PO Box 552, Gladesville, NSW 1675
