

Reserve Assessment Team
Dep. of Planning + Environment
GPO BOX 39 Sydney 2001

Submission of Objection

Moorlarben Coal Operations Stage 1 Mod 14, ~~Stage 2 Mod 3~~

The State government has made a commitment to preserve "The Drip" area for future generations. This proposal will put at risk this beautiful scenic place that has for many years been enjoyed by the community.

This project, if approved, will contribute to the destruction of the health of the river at its headwaters, the Drip picnic area, the delightful river walk and the Great Dripping Wall Gorge.

The Drip Deed agreement to protect additional areas of land as State Conservation Area has not been met under the agreed timeframe of March 2017.

Issues of concern:

- The proposed increase of water discharge into the Goulburn River to 20 million litres per day will further degrade water quality and cause additional ecological stress to the river.
- The cumulative impact with Ulan Coal and Wilpinjong Coal Mines already approved mine water discharges will alter the natural flow regime and dump up to 30 tonnes of salt per day into the river system.
- The increasing total salt load of the Goulburn River will threaten the health of the Goulburn River in the National Park as well as further downstream.
- Groundwater model assumptions do not reflect potential impacts on springs and the upper groundwater system essential to the health of the river.
- Existing mine modelling failed to predict the 5 million litres per day groundwater make into Underground One.
- The long term effect of dewatering and draining the landscape above the mine has not been adequately assessed.
- The Water Management Plan for previous approvals, required by October 2016, is not available
- There has been no independent study of the cumulative impact of mining on the headwaters of the Goulburn River

For these reasons I believe that the modifications should not be approved.

Yours Truly

Keith Sheridan

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NSW

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28.11.17