

Resource Assessment Team
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001
25. 11.2017

Submission of Objection
Moolarben Coal Mine Ref No: 17-8711 Mod 14

I am concerned about this modification and its effect on "The Drip"

For the sake of future generations please don't approve this latest modification.

The proposal by Moolarben Coal, if approved, will contribute to the destruction of the health of the river at its headwaters. This in turn will impact on the river at the picnic area, the delightful river walk and the Great Dripping Wall.

Generations of local and visiting children have played safely in the waters on warm summer days. Visitors from far and wide have appreciated the amazing beauty of this special place and compare it favourably to other iconic places in their travels. Bird watchers gather in the early mornings at the river. An overload of Salt will cease all these activities.

Other potentially dangerous substances would be released in the mine water discharge. These may make the river unfit for recreational purposes and are still to be fully identified.

The natural ecology of the river will be degraded by the proposed increase of water discharge the water quality.

The cumulative effect of two mines, Ulan and Moolarben, discharging mine water into the river will further add to the salt levels and disrupt the natural flow.

There has been no independent study of the cumulative effect of mining on the headwaters of this river. This must happen before any more mining approvals go ahead.

In 2014 and again more recently the NSW State Government declared its commitment to preserving this special place for future generations. The consent for Moolarben Coal (05-0117) requires "nil impact or environmental consequences to The Drip. It will be impossible for the Department of Planning and Environment ensure that this is achieved if this project is approved.

Yours Sincerely

Rick McGregor

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