

Sara Wilson - Dept Planning – Mining and Major Projects RE: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08_0135

From: Adair Imrie <adairimrie@hotmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 2/21/2012 8:35 PM
Subject: Dept Planning – Mining and Major Projects RE: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08_0135
CC: <savethedrip@mdeg.org.au>

I am an Australian citizen and I strongly object to the activities of Moolarben Coal Complex stage 2.

Department of Planning should appoint an independent expert panel (PAC) to fully scrutinise the strategies, assumptions and actions.
 e.g. Owing to the complexity and scale of the proposal, the cumulative impact of multiple mining mega-projects in the locality, and the likelihood of major irreversible impacts on the downstream catchment, we request that the proposal be scrutinised by an independent expert panel or Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

Additional Notes:

The coal mining boom has caused major devastation to the catchment with the Ulan, Wilpinjong and Moolarben Stage 1 mega

mines. But they are still planning more....

Summary of impacts: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report

- The offset package does not include the culturally and scenically significant river corridor known as The Drip and Corner Gorges securing its long term protection, appropriate management and on going public access.
- The permanent damage (at least 100 years) to the Goulburn River and connected groundwater system is unacceptable
- Estimated cumulative water use by the three coal mines approximately 30-40ML/day (10-12 Gigalitre/annum)
- Water use for just the Moolarben Mine estimated to be 10.55ML/day (3850 ML/annum).
- Water deficit for 23 of 24 years (up to 1990ML extra water required)
- No confidence that the groundwater modelling accurately predicts water impacts - there are significant disparities between Moolarben and Ulan Coal Mines groundwater assessments.
- Water for coal washing should be first sourced from Ulan Coal Mine surplus groundwater before any extraction from the Northern Borefield (adjacent to the Goulburn River).
- Clearing of additional 900 has of native forest (123ha EEC Box Woodland)
- Disturbance footprint of 1546 has of native vegetation including 4.1 kms of Murragamba creek, 4.1 kms of eastern creek and a direct impact on over 148 archaeological sites (from scatters to rock shelters).
- Biodiversity offsets are located outside the Hunter Valley catchment, do not represent "like for like" nor replace the net loss to the bio-region or the east west vegetation corridor connecting the coastal forest to the western woodlands.
- Production 17Mt coal or 23.7 Million tonnes (co2-e) year of Greenhouse Gases fuelling further climate

instability. These should be matched with carbon offsets in keeping with recent Land & Environment court decision regarding Ulan Coal Mine

- Project specific night-time noise criteria (based on NSW Industrial Noise policy guidelines plus the cumulative effect of the two other coal mines) set unacceptable noise levels (+35db) for a rural area and will result in excessive noise levels affecting a high number of residents in a wide area including ecotourism business Goulburn River Stone Cottages

yours,
Adair Imrie
Lehrter Strasse 54
Berlin
Germany