

**Sara Wilson - SAVE THE DRIP Proj. 08\_0135**

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**From:** "Bev Atkinson" <beva@exemail.com.au>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 2/21/2012 10:38 AM  
**Subject:** SAVE THE DRIP Proj. 08\_0135  
**CC:** <savethedrip@mdeg.org.au>  
**Attachments:** IMG.jpg

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**SEE ATTACHED PICTURE>**

To: Department of Planning Mining and Major Projects  
 Re: MOOLARBEN Coal Complex Stage II Project 08\_0135

To whom this concerns:

It seems that the Moolarben Stage 2 PPR offset package omits the requested, necessary addition of the Drip and Corner Gorge, to the Goulburn River National Park. This has to be rectified. This whole river system is a natural part of, and a nurturing element for, the Park. Damage it, the Park is damaged. Include it in the Park, and we have at least an intact remnant preserved from the ongoing and pointless destruction by mining.

The reason is clearly enough seen in the attached picture, taken by Mr Geoff Chait on one of our NPA bushwalks along the river.

You can see where the huge boulders have broken, maybe thousands of years back, and fallen making a wonderful three dimensional wonderland. It is a most refreshing, spiritually nurturing place to be. It invites lingering, and quiet meditation. There is nowhere like it anywhere else.

That cannot be said for a coal mine, or for its curtilage areas.

But even this picture only hints at the overall value of these special places, and of the water that flows through them. What reason has the Moolarben Coal Mine given to the community, Council and Government for not automatically protecting these places and this river?

It is the least they can do, being a partial compensation for intended damage to biodiversity, riparian habitat and to the beauty of the area. Once gone, it is gone forever; taken away for nothing of meaning or importance, and with nothing to replace it. Already, damage to peat beds has been noticed; rare peat beds in a setting which has taken eons to evolve.

Our children will care nothing of the residual monetary profits which didn't end up going to China. But they will care deeply about the loss of these places, and they will suffer shame that we could have had a Government which allowed such a pitiful sale of our priceless assets. They will ask us all why.. and what did we do about it.

If the coal has to be washed, don't let them use THIS water.... there is plenty of surplus groundwater from Ulan, to be used. This water should not, ever, be so misused.

The Box Woodland should never, ever be destroyed. It should come before access to coal. It is more important than coal. It is infinitely more fragile, and unlike coal, it is alive. We should have learned from the much regretted destruction which has taken place at Anvil Hill, of the last pristine valley floor forest; it is a lasting National shame.

Please, insist on the Coal Company attaching the Gorge and its unique Drip into the adjacent National Park; it is the only commonsense thing to do.

Thankyou,

Yours sincerely,

Bev Atkinson  
67 Park Street, Scone 2337  
02 6545 3005

You have been sent 1 picture.

IMG.jpg

These pictures were sent with Picasa, from Google.  
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