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Date. 19th February 2012

To / Mining and Major Industry Projects
Department of Planning and infrastructure
GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001 FAX 92286466

SUBMISSION

Dear Sir

My name is David Maynard I live in Mudgee and have been an Aboriginal Cultural Heritage Officer for both two of the local Aboriginal Groups, Mudgee Local Aboriginal Land Council and Murong Gialing ATSIC for many years and am familiar with the Ulan and Moolarben area and its Cultural places and values.

I wish to submit my submission Re / Moolarben Coal Project Stage 2 – Preferred Project : Report No: 08 – 0135. My concerns are relation to Moolarben Coals resent revised plans for STAGE 2 for open cut and underground mine expansion connected with the Goulburn River area that is related to the Drip and the Corner Gorge areas that is important to our Culture. This Riverine area should be included as part of the offset that takes in the Drip area but was not included in the offset for reasons unknown.

This particular area is one of the highest Cultural Value areas connected with the Wiradjuri People and the past Durridjuri Clan Group from that area. Murong Gialinga Corporation has taken care of this important Riverine section of the River for many years that has an important connection to Hands on The Rock Reserve. There are high Tourism values for all people to learn of our Culture and enjoy its many natural resources. Many School Chidren come to this riverine section of the Goulburn river. Should Moolarben Coal close off this area for any works under ground or above now that they converted the area from Crown reserve to privately owned land.

We are also concerned of how the Drip area was converted from Public Reserve to freehold land without any consultation with Mudgee Local Aboriginal Land Council or Murong Gialinga ATSIC Corporation This land is important to all people and should remain on the Stature Books as such.

There are also concerns that the offset package is not acceptable. The Goulburn River area in question should be a part of the offset compensation for the loss of 148 cultural sites, forests, Animal and Bird habitats that have been identified that will be impacted by mining activity and many more will be identified in the future over the Moolarben Coal area. Any offset areas should be kept within the confines of the Moolarben Mine area. Hargraves and any other areas not associated with the Moolarben coal area some 100 klms or more from Moolarben Coal which is far outside the realms of Moolarben coal region. The offsets must be kept within the Moolarben area and not be offered some

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other place like the Hargraves region that invades other Clan areas which is against Cultural beliefs and practices.

It is also important that I ask the Department of Planning to elect an expert panel to investigate and to scrutinise the assumptions, strategies and actions that we could receive a more honest report of such an investigation.

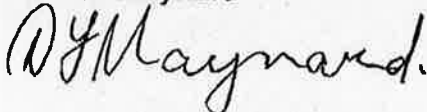
Some of the important issues Full site protection of the Drip and Corner Gorges , for Future Management , Legal public access, to this recreational, educational and Cultural Riverine area with no threat of any impact. This place is there for all to enjoy and should not be tied and locked up with Coal mine companies.

The Goulburn River should not be let die it is our inheritance for all people. Water is a big issue where three coal mines are drawing from the Goulburn River and Wilpinjong Creek tributary including underground water resources. The offset package does not include the Cultural values of the Drip River Corridore securing its long term protection and management and on going Public access which is vital to preserve for future generations.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit my concerns for the future of the Goulburn River area with its environs and Cultural Places.

Yours Sincerely

David Maynard

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D J Maynard', written in a cursive style.