

## Sara Wilson - Objection to the Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 \_ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08\_0135

---

**From:** jolieske lips <jolieskelips@hotmail.com>  
**To:** <plan\_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>  
**Date:** 2/21/2012 10:20 PM  
**Subject:** Objection to the Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 \_ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08\_0135

---

the attachment lists my objections to Project No: 08\_0135

which are also listed below:

- The offset package fails to include The Drip and Corner Gorges. These are culturally and scenically significant river corridors that have long been favourite public recreation places. They should never have been converted from Crown land into freehold land and sold to a non-Australian company. The government **MUST** rectify this mistake by insisting these areas form part of the offset package and secure their long term protection, appropriate management and on going public access by annexing them to the adjacent Goulbourn River National Park.
- 
- A further inadequacy of the offset package is that biodiversity offsets are located outside the Hunter Valley catchment, do not represent 'like for like' nor replace the net loss to the bio-region.
- 
- Stage 2 sees still more (123ha) EEC Box Woodland being cleared. Why can mining companies just continue to clear hectares of this EEC when no-one else can? In total there will be over 900 has of native forest cleared.
- 
- **Water issues are inadequately assessed:** there are significant disparities between Moolarben and Ulan Coal Mines groundwater assessments and there is no confidence that the groundwater modelling accurately predicts water impacts. In addition there will be a water deficit for 23 of 24 years (up to 1990ML extra water required)
- Water for coal washing should be first sourced from Ulan Coal Mine surplus groundwater before additional extraction from the Northern Borefield (adjacent to the Goulburn River).
- The permanent damage (at least 100 years) to the Goulburn River and connected groundwater system is unacceptable
- 148 Aboriginal Cultural Heritage sites are likely to be impacted
- Production 17Mt coal or 23.7 Million tonnes (co<sub>2</sub><sup>-e</sup>) year of Greenhouse Gases fueling further climate instability.
- Excessive noise levels due to the location of the conveyor on top of ridge (must be sound attenuated and set lower on landscape to minimise noise dispersal)
- The Voluntary Payment Agreement offered to Mid Western Region Council is only \$1.365m and

is inadequate

- The increased pressure on housing and services in the Mudgee area has not been addressed

**Finally** the Department of Planning needs to appoint an independent expert panel or Planning Assessment Commission (PAC) to fully scrutinise the strategies, assumptions and actions .

Jolieske Lips  
Flatlands  
Clandulla  
NSW 2848