

120 Bergalin Road  
GULGONG 2852

February 21, 2012

Mining & Major Industry Projects  
Department of Planning &  
Infrastructure

By Fax (02) 9228-6466

Dear Minister,

Re-Moolarben Coal Complex  
Stage 2  
Project No: 08 0135

I am outraged to learn that the Drip & Corner Gorge, Mid Western area has been sold to Moolarben Coal, a large foreign owned Mining Company. It is like putting a Fox in charge of a chicken coop. This unique and pristine wild river area is now subject to destruction at the whim of Moolarben Coal who now hold freehold title.

This region is a highly significant historical and cultural centre with its important aboriginal sacred sites, cave paintings, wetlands, swimming holes, lovely walks through native forests, ancient rock formations, all of which attract many tourists to the area and which should be preserved for future generations to enjoy.

It is a conflict of interests in allowing Mining Companies to be custodians of Heritage and Tourist sites. Mining Companies by their very nature destroy/degrade the environment and the Drip and Corner Gorge need to be preserved. This area is not suitable for open cut and underground mine expansion.

The coal mining boom has caused major devastation to catchment areas already, and any damage to the Goulburn River and connected ground water system is totally unacceptable.

Not to mention that land clearing of native vegetation, fuels greenhouse gases and climate instability.

I ask that you preserve this very unique and significant wilderness area for all Australians to enjoy:

1. For its cultural heritage
2. Environmental uniqueness & ecological endangered species
3. Tourist Industry (which needs some help at the moment)
4. Social importance and Public access for people to enjoy swimming, picnics, walks, exploring etc.
5. There is a cost to the Australian community of allowing large, foreign owned Multi National Companies being

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5. allowed to destroy special and unique areas such as this particular area, for massive financial gain and depriving Australian people the right to enjoy their country/land and heritage, both now and in the future.

Once the area is destroyed, it cannot be restored to its former pristine condition.

The Drip , walking track, southern cliff and Corner Gorges should be transferred and incorporated into the adjoining Goulburn River National Park, to ensure its long term protection, appropriate management and legal public access to this unique and significant recreational, educational and cultural river corridor.

Please preserve this area for all Australians to enjoy.

Yours faithfully,



Robin Chislett