

Sara Wilson - Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: 08_0135

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Date: 2/23/2012 5:58 PM
Subject: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: 08_0135
CC: "jamie.parker@parliament.nsw.gov.au" <jamie.parker@parliament.nsw.gov.au>

Re Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: 08_0135

I urge the planning office to consider the following in their assessment of the expansion of the Moolarben Coal mine complex Stage 2. The project will:-

- Wreak **permanent damage** to the Goulburn River
- Use an unprecedented 10ML of water/day, making a cumulative (including adjacent Wilpingjong and Ulan) use to **30-40ML/day**
- Produce 17 million tonnes of coal or **23.7 million tonnes CO²-equivalent/year of greenhouse gases** fuelling further climate instability well beyond the life of the mine
- . Create excessive noise levels
- Not provide "like for like" biodiversity offsets.

While these concerns alone are grave enough to disallow the expansion of Moolarben, I urge the Planning Department to insist that **the Drip and Corner Gorge are rescinded from their freehold title (under the majority ownership of Yancoal) and become a part of the Goulburn River National Park.**

These are significant geological icons and the beautiful and fragile (under the dangers of longwall mining) escarpment has enjoyed public access for centuries.

The outstanding and culturally unique **-10m of Brett Whiteley cave paintings** - can only be seen on a walk up the Goulburn River to the Gorges and the Drip. To simply give ownership of this precious place to a coal mine (80% foreign-owned) is to ignore the wishes of council and community.

To keep the Drip and the Corner Gorge in the hands of Yancoal denies generations of bushwalkers, tourists, locals and visitors an awe-inspiring natural and cultural wonder; a right to enjoy and appreciate their own country's heritage.



I implore the Planning Department to allow future generations to enjoy this part of paradise (that's how my family and friends have seen it for the last 30 years) by disallowing the Moolarben Coal Mine Stage 2 expansion until **The Drip and Corner Gorges are under the auspices of the Goulburn River National Park and not held by freehold title by the owners of Moolarben Coal** and the future of the Goulburn River is protected from the multiple assaults of coal mining.

Ms Sue Lewis

23/02/12

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Tom, Poppy, Darcy, Jarrah, Hazel at the Drip July 2008