

Sara Wilson - Dept Planning – Mining and Major Projects

From: "Zoe Legge & John Bartley" <jpbartley7@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:24 PM
Subject: Dept Planning – Mining and Major Projects

RE: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08_0135

I Object strongly to the MCC PPR Stage 2 plan and call for The Drip and Corner Gorges to be transferred into the Goulburn River National Park to ensure the long term protection and appropriate management and legal public access to this regionally significant recreational, educational and cultural river corridor.

The Drip and Corner Gorges have been long standing high lights of our visits to this area and for them to be destroyed would be a travesty.

Yours Sincerely

Zoe Legge

2 Hibiscus Way

Scott's Head NSW 2447

Sara Wilson - Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08_0135

From: "Zoe Legge & John Bartley" <jpbartley7@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 2/23/2012 10:10 PM
Subject: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08_0135

TO : Dept Planning – Mining and Major Projects

RE: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report: Project No: 08_0135

Dear To Whom it May Concern

I strongly believe that the **Department of Planning should appoint an independent expert panel (PAC) to fully scrutinise the strategies, assumptions and actions.**

Owing to the complexity and scale of the proposal, the cumulative impact of multiple mining mega-projects in the locality, and the likelihood of major irreversible impacts on the downstream catchment, we request that the proposal be scrutinised by an independent expert panel or Planning Assessment Commission (PAC).

The coal mining boom has caused major devastation to the catchment with the Ulan, Wilpinjong and Moolarben Stage 1 mega

mines. It is unacceptable that they are still planning more.

I beleive the summary of impacts: Moolarben Coal Complex Stage 2 _ Preferred Project Report include :

- The offset package does not include the culturally and scenically significant river corridor known as The Drip and Corner Gorges securing its long term protection, appropriate management and on going public access.
- The permanent damage (at least 100 years) to the Goulburn River and connected groundwater system is unacceptable
- Estimated cumulative water use by the three coal mines approximately 30-40ML/day (10-12 Gigalitre/annum)
- Water use for just the Moolarben Mine estimated to be 10.55ML/day (3850 ML/annum).
- Water deficit for 23 of 24 years (up to 1990ML extra water required)
- No confidence that the groundwater modelling accurately predicts water impacts - there are significant disparities between Moolarben and Ulan Coal Mines groundwater assessments.
- Water for coal washing should be first sourced from Ulan Coal Mine surplus groundwater before any extraction from the Northern Borefield (adjacent to the Goulburn River).
- Clearing of additional 900 has of native forest (123ha EEC Box Woodland)
- Disturbance footprint of 1546 has of native vegetation including 4.1 kms of Murragamba creek, 4.1 kms of eastern creek and a direct impact on over 148 archaeological sites (from scatters to rock shelters).
- Biodiversity offsets are located outside the Hunter Valley catchment, do not represent “like

for like' nor replace the net loss to the bio-region or the east west vegetation corridor connecting the coastal forest to the western woodlands.

- Production 17Mt coal or 23.7 Million tonnes (co₂^{-e}) year of Greenhouse Gases fuelling further climate instability. These should be matched with **carbon** offsets in keeping with recent **Land & Environment** court decision regarding Ulan Coal Mine
- Project specific night-time noise criteria (based on NSW Industrial Noise policy guidelines plus the cumulative effect of the two other coal mines)set unacceptable noise levels (+35db) for a rural area and will result in excessive noise levels affecting a high number of residents in a wide area including ecotourism business Goulburn River Stone Cottages.

Please save The drip and Corner Gorges of Goulbourn River.

Yours sincerely

Zoe Legge

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