

**SUBMISSION IN RESPONSE TO WEST WALLSEND COLLIERY
APPLICATION FOR MODIFICATION 1 - LONGWALLS 51 & 52**

RESIDENTS OF LEIBERTS LANE BRUNKERVILLE NSW 2323

15/04/2014

To Planning and Infrastructure NSW;

In response to West Wallsend Colliery's application for an additional two longwalls to be added to the southern domain operations area, we would like to make the following submission with areas of concern to which Planning and Infrastructure NSW should take serious consideration of. These concerns and objections are described below.

Mining operations already undertaken by West Wallsend Colliery on the Eastern side of the Sugarloaf Ranges, specifically located at the Northern end of both longwalls 42 and 43 have seen immense damage to the environment due to subsidence from irresponsible mining practices. This gross negligence should be taken into consideration before any approvals are made for the expansion of West Wallsend Colliery.

As no guarantees can be made by West Wallsend Colliery that another major collapse causing irreversible damage to the landscape, flora, fauna, heritage areas, water courses and ecosystems will not occur, we feel that longwalls 49 and 50 should not be mined and that remediation works should take place to fix the massive subsidence that has occurred above the Northern end of longwalls 41 and 42 before anymore approvals are made to expand the mine.

Negligence by the mine should not be rewarded with an approval to mine new areas (specifically 51 and 52) until the community is satisfied with remediation works, the closure of longwalls 49 and 50, some form of compensation to our National Parks and the completion of grout overflow extraction, which is still underway.

As members of the community surrounding West Wallsend Colliery are still investigating the damage to the local environment due to the ludicrously asinine actions of the mine, we feel that granting the mine to extract coal at this time would send the wrong message.

In conclusion, our local community object to Planning and Infrastructure NSW approving any expansion of West Wallsend Colliery to the South until the following requirements are met.

1. Remediation of the major collapse located above the Northern end of longwalls 42 and 43 is completed. These huge cracks must be filled in without the use of grouts.
2. Longwalls 49 and 50 are excluded from future mining.

It would be irresponsible for Planning and Infrastructure NSW to approve any expansion of West Wallsend Colliery at this point in time whilst remediation works are still in progress and meetings between the mine and the local communities are also still in progress.

We hope that Planning and Infrastructure NSW takes these extremely important points of concern into consideration when evaluating the application for two additional longwalls (51 and 52) located at the Southern Domain of West Wallsend Colliery.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Liam Kirsh', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Liam Kirsh - 73 Leiberts Lane BRUNKERVILLE NSW 2323
Representing the residents of Leiberts Lane BRUNKERVILLE NSW 2323