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Major Planning Assessments
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001

Ref. No. 10-0001 The Cobbora Coal Mine Project

I am writing to express my deep concern regarding the use of 3.4 billion dollars of NSW taxpayers' money to subsidise the Cobbora Coal Mining project.

This money could be well spent on investing and improving public education, in clean renewable energy projects, in better staffing and facilities in public hospitals and fixing our unsafe roads

This project will not benefit any of the residents in NSW. It is cheap black coal that has a high ash content and will contribute to increasing carbon pollution and adversely affect the health and well being of people, animals and plants.

This project is not only going to lock NSW residents into a contract of non-renewable, pollution generating power for 20 years but also result in immeasurable losses that will be forever.

How does one bring back a species that has become extinct because of habitat destruction? How does the government factor in those costs???

As a resident, of NSW I do NOT want a government which will turn a blind eye to the destruction of more than 1850 hectares of significant woodland - home to 39 threatened species.

It is the responsibility of the government to ensure the protection and preservation of endangered, threatened and vulnerable species so that generations in the future will have the opportunity to enjoy them. The fact that a large number of woodland birds protected under the NSW Threatened Species Act have been recorded in the area of impact indicates that the government must and should reject this proposal.

As a resident of NSW I feel deep concern and outrage that our indigenous population can be treated with such disregard and disrespect by allowing the destruction of 79 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites. These sites are not only significant to Aboriginal peoples and their history - but also a significant part of who and what is Australia.

The buying up of good agricultural land to turn it into a coal project does not make sense. We can not eat coal. The land can not return to food growing once it is polluted.

How can the government justify the using of up to 3700 ML of water per year from surface and groundwater interception for the Cobbora Mine project? Water is a precious and finite resource.

The Mudgee region wine and tourism industry will be or should be around for more than 20 years. Not like the Coborrra Coal mine. It doesn't make sense that a government would sacrifice long term viable industries for one that is polluting and finite!!!

The NSW Government has it's head in the sand and can't see that renewable energy is the way of the future. Please wake up! Look at the value in biodiversity, cultural heritage, clean skies, unpolluted landscapes and fresh air.

Destruction is forever. Mine rehabilitation can NOT replace what is lost.

Sincerely

Patricia Iamir