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35 Frame Road
Codrington NSW 2471

12 November 2012

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

RE: Objection to Cobbora Coal Mine

Dear Sir/Madam,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above proposal.

I have worked in natural resource management since 1998 and I am deeply concerned about the proposed coal mine at Cobbora.

It is simply inappropriate at this time of dangerous climate change to be promoting and supporting the use of coal. How does that fit in with Australia's and New South Wales policies to reduce climate change impacts?

I understand that this project will cost taxpayers around \$3.4 billion. This is at a time when the State government is claiming there is a shortfall in the budget and using that as an excuse to slash public sector jobs and reduce services to the community.

This sort of money would be more wisely invested in renewable energies. New South Wales could lead the world in solar and wind power if we wanted to.

Another concern is the huge footprint such a mine creates. A big hole in the ground destroying 47 km² of land and using up to 3,700 million litres of water per year could jeopardize the Mudgee region wine and tourism industries, and threaten the water supply from Windamere Dam. Not to mention the agricultural land and native habitat for threatened species that would be destroyed, along with countless Aboriginal sites – absolutely irreplaceable!

I urge you not to approve this coal mine!!

Yours sincerely,

Johanna Kempff
B. Natural Resources (Hons)
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