

Objection to the Cobbora Coal Mine

21 Cove Lane

Narooma. 2546

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



Dear Sir/Madam

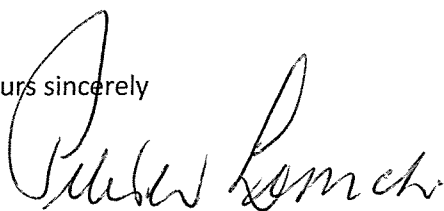
We are concerned about the exponential rise in greenhouse gases and hence the contribution coal from Cobbora Mine will make to exacerbating undesirable climate change. Coal-fired electricity generation is old technology. Alternative, low-carbon generating, technologies are available and these deserve funding by government to take them from 'proven' to 'operational'.

For instance ceramic fuel cell technology has been shown to efficiently generate electricity from natural gas with much lower carbon emissions than electricity from coal. Furthermore this technology is imminently suitable for local power generation thus avoiding the need for high capacity, long distance, transmission lines which are costly to maintain and inefficient in operation.

The Cobbora mine will destroy nearly 2000 hectares of significant woodland providing habitat for 39 threatened species, including nationally listed threatened species. And the mine as proposed will disturb 47 km² of land with important conservation elements, agricultural value and significant Aboriginal cultural/heritage sites. The mine's projected water consumption is also a major concern as it could impact adversely on the entire Mudgee region

It is very apparent that the \$3.4 billion of NSW tax payer's money proposed to be spent on this project is a direct subsidy to power generators. The proponents of this project need to justify such a subsidy given the immediate and longer-term benefits which could flow from developing renewable energy and low carbon sources.

Yours sincerely



Peter and Margaret Lynch

Cc Premier O'Farrell
Minister Hazzard
Member for Bega Constance

