OBJECTION TO COBBORA COAL PROJECT

Application No: 10_0001



Hilary Crawford 48 Mudgee Street Rylstone NSW 2841

13 November 2102

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

Dear Sir/Madam

Objection to Cobbora Coal Project

1 6 NOV 2012 Scanning Room

Department of Planning

Thank you for providing me with the opportunity to comment on the Cobbora Coal Project.

I live in the Central West and take a great interest in the district and in matters affecting its agricultural sustainability, its bio-diversity and its people. I have travelled around the area of the proposed project and was surprised by its very large footprint.

I wish to object to the Cobbora Coal Project on the following grounds:

- 1 The large open cut mine (47 square kilometres) will have a negative impact on a significant farming community, both socially and economically.
- 2 It will disturb an important area of food production when food security is becoming an important issue worldwide.
- 3 It will use an enormous amount of water (up to 3,700ML) from surface water, ground water and the Cudgegong River, thus threatening the water security of the Mudgee region.
- 4 It will involve the clearing of 1867 ha of woodland habitat, impacting on endangered bird species e.g. the regent honeyeater, the superb parrot, and the Australian bittern as well as threatened woodland birds e.g. the diamond firetail, the hooden robin, the speckled warbler, the barking owl, the powerful owl and the masked owl. The clearing will further reduce the little remaining woodland in NSW which vital for preserving biodiversity.
- 5 The project will cause the loss of at least 79 Aboriginal cultural heritage sites.
- 6 The mine will run at a loss and will cost the NSW taxpayer approximately \$3.4 billion dollars, money that could have been spent on investing in renewable energy.

7 It will generate about 25 million tonnes of additional greenhouse gas emissions, conflicting with both Federal and State policy to reduce greenhouse emissions.

From a social, environmental and economic perspective the project does not benefit NSW, especially in the long term.

Thank you for considering my submission.

Yours faithfully

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Hilary Crawford