

E. Blackburn  
Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

May 1, 2014

Mining and Industry Projects  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
GPO Box 39  
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir/Madam

Submission on Coalpac's Proposed Modifications:  
Part 3A Modification 4– Invincible Mine Extension (07\_0127 MOD 4) and  
Part 3A Modification 2 – Cullen Valley Mine Extension (DA 200-5-2003 MOD 2)

I am objecting to the proposed modifications to the Invincible and Cullen Valley Coal Mines for the following reasons:

**Human Impact**

This proposal is less than two kilometres from the town of Cullen Bullen and dust from this project will lead to serious health impacts such as respiratory and cardiovascular problems. In addition to the health impacts, noise, truck movements and blasting will also cause serious problems. Both these issues must not be ignored and the community's quality of life must be protected.

**Environmental Impact – This proposal will:**

Destroy by open-cut mining unique biodiversity, including the national endangered Grassy Box Woodland a nationally endangered ecological community, many nationally endangered plants such as Clandulla Geebung shrubs and 2,300 threatened Capertee Springbark trees.

Threaten an internationally recognised landscape of geo-physical significance, containing the rock 'Pagodas' by failing to provide the 300 metre minimum buffer from the base of the pagoda rock formations and the open-cut area. This buffer provides protection for wildlife and recommended by the Planning Assessment Commission.

The pagodas, cliff and cave overhangs are susceptible to subsidence hazards yet Coalpac did not protect these features from high wall mining also recommended by the Planning Assessment Commission.

**Additional Concerns:**

In September 2013 The Department of Planning and Infrastructure recommended against a similar proposal by Coalpac and at that time, the Department found 'the Coalpac site has significant conservation value'.

In December 2012 a Planning Assessment Commission recommended against Coalpac's open-cut mine proposal known as the Coalpac Consolidation Plan. The PAC found 'the benefits of the project are substantially outweighed by the breadth and potential magnitude of the impacts. The Commission therefore recommends that the project should not be approved'.

Coalpac's latest modifications still have the same unacceptable impacts and risks as the previous proposals, albeit on a smaller scale. If these proposals are approved there is also the very real possibility that through a series of modifications this mine will expand and end up the size of the original proposal, which was rejected due to the aforementioned concerns.

Coalpac is under administration therefore there can be no guarantee the Company has the resources to properly undertake this highly controversial proposal in an environmentally sensitive area. .

Given all of the above I would ask that you refuse consent to both proposed modifications and stop open-cut mining in the Gardens of Stone region.

Yours sincerely  
E. Blackburn

Cc:	M. Baird	Premier of NSW
	P. Goward	Minister for Planning
	A. Roberts	Minister for Resources and Energy
	J. Skinner	Minister for Health