

325 Evans Lookout Road Blackheath NSW 2785

25 April 2014

Mining and Industry Projects Dept. of Planning and Infrastructure GPO BOX 39 SYDNEY

I have two complaints to make.

Firstly, the short time allowed for public comment on the proposed Coalpac Mine extension in Ben Bullen State Forest and its' timing over a holiday period could lead one to suspect there was an intention to discourage public comment.

Secondly, when I attempted to make a submission I was repeatedly blocked by the security code. If you genuinely want public participation the site needs to be made more user friendly. I have been forced to make a submission by post as I couldn't submit via your website.

Would you please provide me with notification that my accompanying submission has been received and will be considered?

lan Olsen olsen@lisp.com.au

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Proposed Mine Extension by Coalpac Pty Ltd. Ben Bullen State Forest SUBMISSION

I strongly object to the proposed extension of the Invincible mine in Ben Bullen State Forest as it will destroy an area of considerable aesthetic, natural and geomorphological value that could otherwise be reserved for the enjoyment of the people of this state for all time. In addition the mine works pose a significant health risk to the residents of Cullen Bullen. In particular the proposal would:-

- Destroy poorly conserved plant communities including Grassy Box Woodland and a number of threatened or endangered plants such as the Clandulla Geebung and an estimated 2,300 threatened Capertee Stringybarks.
- Threaten the stability of internationally recognised pagodas by ignoring the 300 metre minimum buffer recommended by the Planning and Assessment Commission.
- Produce poor quality coal at a massive cost to the environment when ample supplies of coal are available and we should be reducing use of coal to a minimum.
- Increase morbidity and mortality in Cullen Bullen from respiratory and cardiovascular disease linked to dust.

If we were to give due weight to the moral issue of intergenerational equity this proposal wouldn't be seriously considered. Instead the land would be reserved for conservation of biodiversity and the enjoyment of generations unborn. This proposal would create a wasteland of no use to anyone. Yes it can be revegetated with native species but will be nothing like its' present condition and will become infested with weeds. We must start to take a long term view.

lan Olsen