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I am writing to oppose the proposed Port Waratah Coal Services Terminal 4 development in Newcastle(10_0215). The T4 proposal must NOT be approved due to the many adverse effects on the Hunter region.

As a resident of the Maitland suburb of Metford whose home is close to the railway I am horrified by the prospect of another 41 coal trains (at least) passing through our town. The increase in noise and dust for residents is totally unacceptable and health problems for both Maitland and Newcastle will be exacerbated. The fact that the proposal seeks to downplay the effect on residents by limiting the effects of noise and dust to 20 metres either side of the railway line is disingenuous in the extreme. There needs to be a health study of the effects of dust particles and noise on the health of residents along the track before this proposal is approved.

The proposal, if allowed, will impact adversely on the nearby RAMSAR wetland and the loss of Deep Pond will further stress this valuable habitat for threatened migratory and native birds. The offsets proposed at Ellalong are totally useless in replacing Deep Pond as a habitat and foraging area as they are 50 km away.

Dredging of the South Arm Of the river will have huge impacts on aquatic habitats with the potential to add to the salinity, alter currents and release pollutants that are trapped in the bottom of the river. There is no requirement to fully remediate the T4 site so that leaching of the toxic material present must pollute the wetlands and the Hunter river.

Some adverse social and economic impacts that approval of this proposal would include:

- Loss of economic activities in the port eg fishing and tourism
- 22 more coal ships per week will push out other shipping
- T4 will facilitate the development of at least 15 more large coal mines in the Hunter valley which means more pollution of water systems, loss of agricultural land and flora and fauna
- Health problems caused by the coal industry, already estimated as costing \$2.6 billion, will become more prevalent in the Hunter.
- T4 would provide coal for an extra
- 288 million tonnes of carbon dioxide thus fuelling global climate change.

Health reasons alone should prevent T4 being approved and when the additional adverse effects are taken into account the T4 proposal must be refused.

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