

**Rebecca Newman - T4 Coal Loader.**

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**Date:** 27/04/2012 10:14 AM  
**Subject:** T4 Coal Loader.

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Hi Rebecca,

I would like to offer my strong objections to the T4 Coal Loader at Kooragang Island. If it goes ahead, it will destroy important habitat for several species of Migratory Shorebirds at Swan Pond on Ash Island and Deep Pond on Kooragang Island. To destroy these important areas would be contrary to international agreements and obligations we have with other countries in the East Asian-Australasian Flyway for Migratory Shorebirds. I think it is inappropriate for the Government to rezone areas, that were earmarked for inclusion in the Kooragang National Park, for their inclusion in this project. This ignores their conservation values as important Shorebird habitat. Many studies have documented the gradual degradation of the Hunter Estuary. Please don't allow this degradation to continue. The Hunter Estuary is recognised as the most important site in NSW for Migratory Shorebirds.

The other reason for my objection concerns the expansion of the Coal Industry that will occur if this project goes ahead. I believe that the Coal Industry is already out of control with regard to expansion and the corresponding destruction of farming land and natural habitat, as well as the erosion of the quality of life for people in mining areas. I think it's clear that people have had enough! They fear that this project will result in a large increase in the number of coal trains running through the valley. Living, as I do, at Wingen in the Upper Hunter, it is very noticeable that the number of trains are increasing. There is already a dangerous situation at Scone with long trains cutting the town in half. Health Authorities are concerned about the effects from added coal dust and diesel fumes that will result from the expansion in the industry.

Thank you for considering my submission,

Regards, Greg Newling