

Dept of Planning

Attention Elle Donnelly

Submission against the Warkworth (SSD 6464) and Mt Thorley (SSD6465) Continuation Projects

Approval for expanding the Warkworth coal mine was overturned in April 2013 by Judge Preston of the NSW Land and Environment Court who found that the information used by Rio Tinto and the Dept. Of Planning in support of the project was wrong.

An appeal to the NSW Supreme Court (Court of Appeal) was also lost on merit and all fair minded people would imagine that this would be the end of the matter as two important NSW courts had ruled against the proposal.

However the new proposal is just a resubmission of the original proposal but split into two- SSD 646 and SSD 645- in effect the same proposal that had been already knocked back by two NSW courts.

The same arguments against the original project (MP 09_ 0202) thus pertain to these projects especially the fact that Warkworth Sands is a unique landform with unique ecology, has significant Aboriginal heritage on Saddlers Ridge and in Warkworth Sands and living conditions in the village of Bulga would be unbearable if the expansion of the mine were to go ahead.

Bulga residents are entitled to the view that the fact that the Dept of Planning accepted Rio Tinto's slightly re -jigged application is a failure of procedural fairness indicating extreme bias on the part of Planning. This is certainly a view that I hold and thus I strongly feel that the decisions of the NSW Land and Environment Court and the NSW Supreme Court (Court of Appeal) must be respected and thus the applications must be rejected.

Wendy White

200 High St

East Maitland 2323

I am making a personal submission and have made no political donations.