

Just last year the community of Bulga in the Hunter Valley won their second court case against mining giant Rio Tinto's open-cut coal mine. Their victory saved their village and the endangered Warkworth Sands Woodland.

But the fight is not over.

Rio Tinto has ignored the community and the courts and re-lodged nearly the exact same mega-mine proposals and right now the NSW government is considering giving them the green light.

The community said no, the courts said no. Please join us and make a submission to stop this mega-mine expansion today. [Simply go to the governments webpage](#) to stand up for our land, water and communities. We've written a template at the end of this email to help you.

The Land and Environment Court ruled in April last year that the state government's approval of the original Warkworth open-cut mine extension proposal was invalid because it would have significant and unacceptable impacts on biodiversity; noise impacts on residents; and social impacts on the local community of Bulga.



This battle isn't only about the people and wildlife in area directly affected by the mines.

It's about the future we want for NSW. **A future where the power of communities is greater than big business, and where our land and water is protected.**

I am writing to register my objection to the approval of both the Warkworth (SSD 6464) and Mt Thorley (SSD 6465) Continuation Projects.

The proposed projects will have significant environmental and social impacts, including but not limited to: biodiversity loss, air quality issues arising from coal dust, impacts on Aboriginal cultural heritage, impacts upon surface and ground water resources, and increase greenhouse gas emissions. The projects will significantly impact upon the ecology of the Warkworth Sands Woodland Endangered Ecological Community.

The Warkworth Continuation Project proposes to mine the same area of land as the previous 2010 Warkworth Extension application. That 2010 application was dismissed by both the Land and Environment Court and Supreme Court of NSW due to significant and unacceptable impacts on biological diversity, including on endangered ecological communities, noise impacts and social impacts. Although there are some differences in this new application, the broad scale impacts of the proposal remain the same.

These proposals have the potential to create long-term damage to threatened species, water and human health in the region and should be rejected.

Our Association represents almost 3,000 residents in the 18 Residential Parks within the Port Stephens Region and also in parts of the Hunter Valley.

We believe that Rio Tinto has ignored the community and the courts and re-lodged nearly the exact same mega-mine proposals. Which suggests that they lack any sense of responsibility for the further depredation of the Hunter Valley, which must be the final outcome of yet another huge mine.

Yours Sincerely, Ron McLachlan jp President, Port Stephens Park Residents Association Inc.