

## Submission Guide

Ulan Coal Mod 4

**Deadline:** Wed 2 May

Lodge at:

[http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/mining--petroleum---extractive-industries/mining/?action=view\\_job&job\\_id=9176](http://majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au/page/development-categories/mining--petroleum---extractive-industries/mining/?action=view_job&job_id=9176)

Or email planner: [anthony.ko@planning.nsw.gov.au](mailto:anthony.ko@planning.nsw.gov.au)

Key points for submission of objection:

1. The underground mine expansion will further threaten regional groundwater sources to the north of The Drip gorge
2. More base flows to the Goulburn River will be intercepted
3. The cumulative regional impact of mining on the health and integrity of the Goulburn River has not been assessed
4. Good quality water discharge from Ulan Mine into the Goulburn River must be regulated under a set of environmental flow rules that mimic natural flows
5. Do not support mining under the Durrigere State Conservation Area
6. The additional extraction of coal will increase the impacts of climate change

### Background:

Ulan Coal Mine has been operating across the headwaters of the Goulburn River since the mid-1980s extracting up to 23 million litres per day of groundwater. This is the major western rising tributary of the Hunter River.

The cumulative damage to the river is now very evident with two additional neighbouring mines, Moolarben and Wilpinjong. The Goulburn River stopped flowing over the summer period despite large storm events and smaller nearby creeks continuing to flow.

All three mines continue to expand in the absence of an independent regional water study.

The drawdown of groundwater and interception of surface flows over a large area of the river catchment has impacted on essential base flows that sustain the Goulburn River. This water loss has caused it to become highly dependent on the discharge of treated mine water.

The ongoing drawdown and interception of regional groundwater that supports base flow in the river and reports to the iconic natural landscape feature known as The Drip, cannot continue.

We need at least 25 objections to this latest expansion proposal to enable further assessment.