

DA 305-7-2003 MOD 12 Part3AMod Wambo Mine - Modification 15 - Additional Longwalls (14 to 16) (Part3AMod)

I object to the proposed Wambo Mine modification 12 because:

- At a time when the coal industry is in structural time and there is a worldwide oversupply of coal the likelihood that Peabody Energy, a company that has filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy, will be able to withstand the falling price and demand for coal. This poses a real threat to the Australian environment; it is likely this mine will not be able to meet rehabilitation requirements. This 3 year extension effectively defers rehabilitation obligations; as such this modification may be a ploy to achieve that end.
- There has been a history of poor management demonstrated at this mine including the recent collapse of a dam wall (Jan.2016) resulting in significant pollution of waterways. The South Water Storage Dam built in 2009 has failed on occasion with overtopping by mine wastewater, another example of ongoing negligent project management.
- This mine has caused significant subsidence of Wambo Creek the promised repair work has not been carried out according to conditions of approval and management plans. There is a long history of inadequate consultation with the affected property owners. The EIS for this project fails to recognise the outstanding and unresolved conflicts under current approvals. These conflicts continue with promised works still outstanding.
- Health impacts, (noise and dust) from current operations is not assessed. The washery is near to inhabited property. Dust and noise already exceed the predictions in the EA for current operations.
- The Critically Endangered ecosystem of Warkworth Sands Woodland will be impacted by effects on the perched aquifers which support it.
- The impacts of extension of this mine's activities do not take account of the cumulative impacts of the other 3 mines in the immediate area.
- At a time when Australia is a signatory to the Paris Agreement agreeing to take measures to slow and hopefully halt climate change it makes no sense to approve extensions of any coal mining. Particularly this particular project which will hinder Australia's efforts to mitigate and/or manage climate change and in the light of Peabody Energy's precarious financial situation.

Judith Leslie
339 The Inlet Road
Bulga NSW 2330

J Leslie