

# **Murong Gialinga Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Corporation**

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Whom it may concern

We are replying to the expansion of Wilpingjong Mine After reading the project books and discussing this with our directors we have these concerns..

## **Murong Gialinga Concerns**

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- **Bird Rock** –re significance. Recorded as low significance even though rock art is present this is the area where pit 8 will be if approved this area is a very cultural area for our people past and present we have great concerns on this area being destroyed,

**Area G** –rock formation on the valley floor of slate gully

Complex cultural values – artefacts, art, and shelter at WCP578 and WCP579 with artefacts of high significance without local context (executive Summary)

with half the sites recorded will be impacted or destroyed there are already devastating effects from the current Wilpingjong mine and the other two mines in the area let alone the huge impacts from this development.

This report is assessing sites in relation to this project not the landscape or region as a whole, No consideration given to the nonphysical sites or the landscape as a whole

Murong Gialinga cannot give an informed opinion re the assessment as we have not received any information from them so we cannot give feedback. This is a huge concern due to the potential impacts of the development. Other issues are noise, dust, etc. would not be assessed without all the information being available,

Impacts will be low to medium- this based on their scientific significance not cultural values.

Yet 31% of sites affected of cultural value and the impacts are to a broad area of 10km.

We are concerned the amount of different Archaeologists doing cultural work as all have different ideas we have not received any feedback from one company we requested information reports but all fell on deaf ears so over the months of work we know nothing of their work.

Despite the report stating that there is low potential for surface materials it is a culturally significant valley .Artefacts are not the only things that make a site or area significant.

Artefact scatter – a large site was recorded with over 500 plus artefacts also two axes in a concentrated area.. This along with the other sites shows that the area was highly used by our people and very significance.

Page 17 Kayandel site recordings are not on AHIMS database therefore any information from AHIMS doesn't give a true representation of sites in the development area as the official records are incomplete.

## **Castle Rock**

we have concerns about re vibration and dust impacts.

**Concerns** about potential impacts on threatened species.

This beautiful country that will be destroyed most of the areas for the expansion are very Cultural, No amount of revegetation will make a difference.

We feel the expansion is premature its only 2016 also it only adds seven years life to the mine there is another ten and a half years of the potential coal reserve left so why is the extension needed ?

Over stated the number of jobs to be created by the project, we feel that the number of employment created by the project cannot justify the need for the project.

**The loss** of our culture is permanent. Impacts on future generations –they will never be able to visit cultural places and learn about their county and significance of the area as it will be destroyed.

**Effects** on wild life corridors that were previously approved as part of the original Wilpinjong mine.

**Impacts** on our ability to access cultural places between Wollar and Ulan due to road closures.

**We** support the residents of Wollar on the noise concerns

**Why** do they want to expand when the price of coal is so low? Have a look around Australia how many Coal Mines are closing .This is low quality coal will be extracted where is the demand to justify the impacts from the project.

**Impacts** on transgrid more survey work needs to be done on the proposed altered transgrid route now how can we fully assess the impacts of this if we have not surveyed the proposed route.

**Removes** the buffer zone for the Munghorn gap which contains significant sites .Effects on ground

**Concern** about voids safety of people and animals water salinity, bores, and erosion.

**Ulan Road** We support residents concern re traffic on Cooyal –Wollar road ,safety, hazards also ratepayers expense.

Murong Gialinga would like the mine to allow a rock art expert Mr Dave Lambert to view the art work at the rock shelters to give his expert opinion,.

Kind Regards

Debbie Foley