

PCU064494

10 Bayly Street
Gulgong 2852

1 March 2016

Department of Planning and Environment
Attn. Executive Director – Resource Assessments and Business Systems
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001

Re: Wilpinjong Extension Project

Dear Sir,

I am writing in support of the proposed Wilpinjong Extension Project from 2026 to 2033.

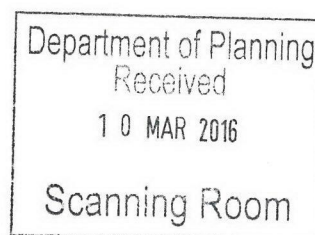
As an employee of the mine for seven years, I am very much aware of the benefits it has brought to the area.

In particular, Wilpinjong, along with the other coal mines in the area, has provided employment for many who otherwise would be at a loss as to how to support themselves and their families. Without Wilpinjong Coal Mine operating in the Central West at present it would be hard to see how a large number of people employed by them would be able to earn a living: there are no other large industries which offer employment to so many. Without Wilpinjong Coal Mine, many presently employed by them would find life more difficult, would probably need to move from the area, and the area would be less congenial in a number of ways.

An extension to operations as proposed in the Extension Project can only add to satisfactory employment prospects, and for an increased number of people. Without the Extension Project we cannot secure our future and be sure we can continue living in this area and raising our families.

Related to the issue of employment are the benefits that result from a satisfactorily remunerated workforce, which includes the 15.5% employed in mining as given in the Deloitte Access figure. As well as providing employment for many, the mines indirectly affect life in our area and a variety of commercial enterprises benefit from their presence.

I value my job at Winpinjong and am especially appreciative of the care given by Peabody to all its employees.



Yours faithfully,

Rex Mani