

Submission – Wallarah 2 Coal Project

20 June 2013

Dear Sir,

I am making this submission to record my opposition to the proposed Wallarah 2 Coal Project.

I am a resident of Sydney, but I have family members who have moved to the Central Coast. We all remember the last drought when water supplies were running low and there were contingency plans for ‘mini’ desalination plants on every beach.

A multi-million dollar pipeline was built from Mardi to top-up the Mangrove Dam. Now we hear that this long-wall coal operation threatens to undermine the water catchment areas of the Dooralong and Yarramalong valleys from which this top-up water was to come. It has been reported that 79 million litres of groundwater a day would leach into the mine – more than the area's annual rainfall.

For this *threat to the catchment*, and hence to the water supply for the residents of the Central Coast, this proposal should be rejected. As it was by the previous government.

This proposal is not significantly different from that which was submitted previously and still does not address the issues that caused it to be rejected at that time.

There are a number of immediate effects that are reasons for rejection, both locally and further afield. Locally, the suburbs of Blue Haven and Wyee would be affected by noise and dust from the stockpiling and loading of the coal trains. Further afield, the coal trains would leave a trail of coal dust pollution through the southern suburbs of Newcastle. Just when the residents of Newcastle thought they could breath easier after the cancellation of the fourth coal terminal.

Then there are the indirect and longer term effects, including loss of biodiversity and contribution to climate change.

I am opposed to this project and submit that the proposal be rejected.

Your sincerely

(Submitted electronically and personal details withheld)