

18 June 2013

Director Mining Projects
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

**OBJECTION TO PROPOSED WALLARAH 2 COAL PROJECT
APPLICATION NO.: SSD - 4974**

We object to the Wallarah 2 Coal Project on the following basis:

The Dooralong and Yarramalong Valleys is the largest drinking water resource for the entire Central Coast population, more than 300,000 people, and account for approximately 53% of the drinking water supply, which is drawn from the streams and aquifers. The various streams, creeks and rivers within the water catchment are primarily fed from the underground aquifers, providing approximately 68% of the water to these streams. We are concerned that after fully reading the Wallarah 2 EIS that the proposed mine will have an unacceptable impact on the drinking water catchment.

A report on Jilliby Jilliby Creek, prepared in 2004 by River Care, in association with Hunter-Central Rivers Catchment Management Authority, National Heritage Trust and the Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources, declared this water system as one of the most pristine in New South Wales. This report also raises concern of the potential damage that may be caused by longwall coal mining directly beneath the creek system and within the catchment area.

We are concerned that coal extraction from beneath the water catchment valleys will have enormous environmental, health, economic and social impacts on the Central Coast. In particular the problem of ground subsidence impacting on the water supply and the habitat of many endangered species of fauna of national significance, flora and fauna that are listed as threatened and endangered and the impact, airborne coal dust particles emanating from the coal loading facility and rail transport will have on human health.

We are also concerned about the problems associated with coal dust (respiratory and skin disease) being transported on the wind. In particular mortality from fine airborne coal dust emissions as clearly in the Wallarah 2 Executive Summary (page xi) and Appendix M, pages 6 - 17 of the Health Assessment Risks.

There are a number of international waders, recorded under the Australian Government agreements with China, Japan and South Korea, whose fragile habitat is entirely dependent upon the health of the water catchment river systems, and thirty-three (33) State endangered or

threatened species of flora and fauna within the catchment valleys. Concern is raised at the threat posed to the habitat of the various endangered and threatened species of flora and fauna.

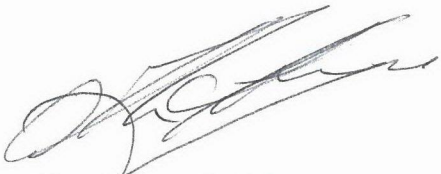
We are also concerned that Kores' Environmental Impact Statement (2013) of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project is only a re submission of their previous submission, dealing with some of the matters in a different way but still providing the same conclusions as previously.

Walarah 2 have not obtained a social licence (acceptance from the community) and have failed to adequately address community concerns or consult with them. In particular there has been a total failure by the proponent to engage in a one-on-one discussion programme with landowners within the mine footprint. Distributed newsletters have done no more than promote Wallarah 2 propaganda, lulling landowners into a false sense of security that there will be no impact upon there properties.

The previous Minister for Planning Tony Kelly rejected the Wallarah 2 mine proposal because of too many uncertainties. He confirmed in a letter on the 21st March 2011, "the project is not considered consistent with the principles of ecologically sustainable development, including the precautionary principle, and as a consequence is not considered to be in the public interest."

We believe that the proposed Wallarah 2 mine is still not in the public interest and should be rejected.

Yours faithfully



Alan Hayes OAM



Judith Hayes