Wallarah 2 Mining Proposal Major Planning Assessments Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 Sydney 2001



**Objection to Proposal Wallarah 2 Coal Project Application No. SSD-4974 From Our Land Our Water Our Future. (<u>www.ourlandourwaterourfuture.org</u>) 21/06/13** 

To whom it may concern,

My name is Paul Robert Burton representing Our Land Our Water Our Future. A Central Coast Based Non For Profit Incorporated Association with many participating groups and associations.

I am speaking both as an individual and as the designated representative for all members of the OLWF on the Central Coast NSW.

Not only do I object to the proposal for Wallarah 2 Coal Project Application No. SSD-4974. I would go even further to consider this proposal "complete Insanity". I fail to comprehend how any community representatives could allow such a proposal? If any of these representatives were truly protecting the best long-term interests of the Central Coast Community, this submission should have been stopped long ago? I can only conclude that the government representatives elected to protect the best interests of the Central Coast Community, are in great need of correct objective information from dedicated professionals whom specialize in ground and surface water studies and whom have the information available on Climate Change.

Here are some of the main reasons why the Wallarah 2 Project CANNOT PROCEED.

#### 1. Ground and Surface Water Impacts.

The EIS for this project states that it will impact over 50% of the fresh water supply for the 300,000 Central Coast residents. Water is a primary resource we need to survive, it is fundamental to life. For further information Philip Pells, Pells Consulting <u>http://www.pellsconsulting.com.au/</u>

#### 2. Mardi-Mangrove Pipeline and Subsidence etc etc

The \$80 million Mardi-Mangrove pipeline designed to transfer water from this system to the Mangrove Dam on the escarpment during flood rains, was built to provide the Central Coast Community with water at times of great shortage. The Wallarah 2 Coal Project proposal risks the long-term integrity of this pipeline and again further risks the water supply for thousands of Central Coast residents.

## 3. Failure to Address Previous Concerns.

The Wallarah 2 Coal Project application has already been refused once, based on the proponent's failure to adequately address issues of **water quality**, **ecological**, **subsidence** and **heritage impacts**. i.e It was refused in 2011 based on this information and nothing significant has changed other than the addition of the risk to the new Mardi-Mangrove Pipeline.

## 4. Threatened Species

The current EIS lists **thirty seven** recorded threatened and migratory fauna species and **six** vulnerable or endangered flora species within the project site. Many of these species are protected under state and federal legislation as well as international agreements. The key threats to these species include land clearing, change in habitat due to subsidence and alteration of water flow, wetlands and floodplains.

# 5. Climate Change (most important of all)

Five million tonnes of export grade thermal coal per annum represents a substantial contribution to NSW total carbon emissions and is in conflict with state and federal programs to reduce our contribution to global climate change?

The argument for continued coal-fired electricity in comparison to the long-term investment in renewable energy sources is over.

Organisations like Greenpeace and The ASPO (Australian Association for the study of Peak Oil And Gas) have made it powerfully clear (using fundamental mathematics) that our fossil fuel based society is on the brink of collapse. Greenland is fast disappearing and we will see a minimum 7 metre water rise in the next ten years. This will happen even if we stopped all fossil fuel production today!!!

Any plan to continue expanding The Fossil Fuel Industry is a ridiculous proposition driven by short term greed and self interest. Our leaders (at this point in time), do not appear to consider the long term impacts of this industry and the catastrophic ramifications both on the local level and internationally?

For further information Ian Dunlop ASPO http://www.aspo-australia.org.au

### Summary

The Wallarah 2 Coal Project Application No. SSD-4974 cannot proceed. If for any reason it does ? Please consider the community ramifications as you will leave us no choice, we must protect our water. Please feel free to contact us for any further information to help your decision in this matter and please understand that we have already made ours ......

It is our Responsibility, as deemed by that which created us, or through the simple undeniable recognition of our existence. To help all Human Kind realise the Catastrophic Ramifications of the continued abuse of our planet, through a disconnection with Nature and Natural Law. As a result of this disconnection, the now imminent threat to both our global and local, water, land and air resources without which we cannot survive. This Responsibility exists above and beyond any System or Government as neither of these created us. We appeal to all Human Kind, to make a personal heart choice from within and to align themselves with this simple TRUTH, for both their own benefit and the benefit of the many.

Kindest regards Paul Robert Burton (Our land Our Water Our Future)

Some Associated Groups sharing in our concerns.....

