

Director, Mining Projects
Development Assessment Systems & Approvals
Dept Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Dear Sir

Objection to proposed Wallarah 2 Coal Project – Application No. SSD – 4974

I am a resident of the Central Coast and I welcome the opportunity to comment on the above proposal.

I wish to express my concerns with the current proposal which was previously rejected in March 2011 as being unsustainable and which has essentially been reworked and resubmitted. I understand the current Government was opposed to the development of this coal mine when in opposition. Why has their position changed since gaining office?

My main concern is the impact of the proposal on water supplies across the Wyong and Gosford local government areas. Unpolluted water supplies are vital to our communities survival and that of future generations. It would be a tragedy if mine subsidence draws down the aquifers which feed the river systems and cause major loss of our drinking water. These valleys are a substantial portion of the water catchment for the entire area of the Central Coast which has a rapidly expanding population.

The use of large quantities of water from the catchment to operate the mine and the subsequent disposal of this site water has the potential to severely deplete water supplies and have a detrimental effect on water quality. The water supply of the Central Coast should not be put at risk for the short term financial gain of a mining company and the Government. On these grounds alone NO mining should be permitted in any catchment area and the Precautionary Principle should be applied to reject this project.

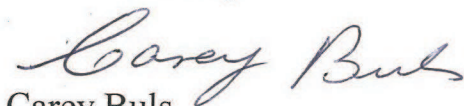
My other concerns are the environmental issues of the mine's effect on protected migratory bird waders which frequent the area and the threatened flora species and endangered fauna all protected under the Federal EPBC Act. How can a protective Act be overridden with such a mine proposal?

The effects of coal dust on the health of children in particular, as well as adults is now well established and I question whether this additional coal mine should be established to add another pollution hazard to the environment which has the potential to affect the health of all residents on the Central Coast. The health effects will be a long term cost to our health system and future Governments.

As a fossil fuel, coal's effect on climate change is increasingly being recognised and the extraction of further coal from this proposed mine will make a substantial contribution to NSW carbon emissions and is contrary to State and Federal programs to reduce our contribution to global climate change.

In conclusion I believe that approval to proceed should not be given to this project as the effects on our water, health, air quality and the bio diversity of the region is not warranted.

Yours faithfully



Carey Buls
4 Anwen Close
Saratoga 2251

21st June 2013