

Alexa Coffey  
891 Yarramalong Road  
Wyang Creek NSW 2259

17<sup>th</sup> June, 2013

Director of Mining Projects  
Development Assessment Systems and Approvals  
Dept of Planning and Infrastructure  
GPO BOX 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

#### Objection to Wallarah 2 Coal Mine Project – Application SSD - 4974

Hi, my name is Alexa Coffey and I am thirteen years old. I go to Lakes Grammar an Anglican School. I love my friends and family. They mean the world to me, just like yours would mean the world to you.

Walarah 2 Coal mine will cause air pollution. Our everyday oxygen will become polluted with poisonous coal dust particles and we will start to produce cancer in our lungs. People can't go around wearing masks everyday.

What about the new born babies first breath of air? Great grandparents, grandmas and grandpas sitting on the deck, watching their livestock grazing happily, but knowing they are too weak to fight against the poisonous coal dust cancer already blackening and crushing their once fresh pure air filled lungs.

I myself have a say in my future and I believe I have a right to tell the coal companies what is right and what the negative effects of the coal mine will bring to community.

I used to go to Wyong Creek Public School and I still remember every day we would go down to the creek, to see yabbies, platypus and fish swimming around and all the birds singing happily in the trees. Now, if the coal mine goes ahead future generations including my children will not be able to enjoy this. Unfortunately my new high school is located very close to the coal plant and I will have no option but to breathe toxic coal dust.

My family came to this valley to enjoy the beauty, the fresh air and scenery, not to live near a coal mine that will desecrate the state forest and habitats of all the little creatures that live there. My parents have also built a brand new house and now we are told that parts of it might sink into the ground and crack.

They say everything can be fixed. Well I'm only thirteen and even I know that's not true!

In the past the coal mines beneath the water catchments have made the creeks and rivers dry up. Toxic gases and 40 degree fumes rise up through the cracks in the ground and water seeps down into the mine leaving all the platypus, fish, yabbies, turtles, birds and lots more lose their poor innocent lives. Water that is used in the mining is then cleaned with dangerous chemicals and then let out into creeks and stream.



When and if that happens what do we do? They are gone. Dead. Never to be seen again. I even heard that in the southern highlands they tried to grout the creek bed cracks. Big fail.

I don't think that this is fair, all this for Korea, a country that is 8304 kilometres away that doesn't obviously support global warming policies. Why do we have to wreck the lives of hundreds of Australians and Australian animals? What happens when all the platypus are gone? What animal will we display on our twenty cent piece if there are no platypus in Australia?

The Wyong river water catchment was found to be one of Australia's cleanest water supplies in the whole of Australia and home to hundreds of platypus. Their habitat is protected by the federal government but now it is being threatened.

If the creek dries up that means all the trees along the banks will also die. Trees that provide us with pure rich oxygen will be gone. I will have to breathe oxygen out of little blue cans for the rest of my life!

I would like to die of old age, not cancer in my lungs from coal dust. So please don't wreck the lives of the whole of the Central Coast and all the animals too, make a stand! I know you want to be remembered for the person who saved the Central Coast water catchment, not the person who wrecked the lives of thousands of peoples and animals lives, just to get the government a bit more money.

I've never written a letter before to the government about anything, but I know this letter could save the lives and health of hundreds of people and animals. Even if it was just one. I would do anything for me and my family and the whole of the Central Coast to live happily and healthily for the rest of their lives and I hope you would too.

I would also like to ask you some questions....

What are you going to do when the river cracks?

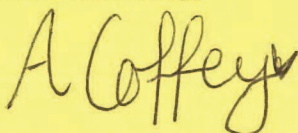
What are you going to do when all the native flora and fauna are dead?

What are you going to say to all the people whose family members have passed from the effects of coal dust and cry every day?

So for the lives and homes of hundreds of Australians and animals I will fight for my right in the way my and my family's life will be for eternity.

I hope this letter will be read and I hope this will make you understand the reasons why the Wallarah 2 Coal Mine should not go ahead.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A Coffey" with a stylized flourish at the end.

Alexa Jane Coffey

Proud resident of Yarramalong Valley