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

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

Dear Sir/Madam

This mine will have a devastating impact on the Central Coast region despite claims by the proponent.

I vehemently object to the Wallarah 2 Coal mining proposal for the following reasons:

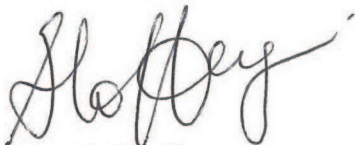
- KORES has admitted in their Environmental Impact Statement that at least 245 homes will be severely impacted by subsidence, some of them up to two metres. Long wall mining will not only affect housing but will also negatively impact on rural industries and small business enterprises in the affected areas.
- The Wallarah 2 project will cause unprecedented damage to landforms. Upsidence and subsidence has the potential to cause irreparable damage to the riverbed that passes through the valley and flood plains of the Yarramalong and Dooralong Valleys. These valleys contain federally protected riparian zones and platypus habitats.
- Mining subsidence is frequently associated with cracking of valley floors and creek lines with disastrous consequences on surface and ground water hydrology.
- Subsidence and upsidence will have an affect on the flood levels exposing previously unaffected land, housing and infrastructure including roads to be affected by flooding. Since Wyong is situated on a flood plain the township as a whole will be impacted.
- There is evidence to support that coal mining will cause considerable damage to the underground aquifers of Dooralong and Yarramalong Valleys which account for supplying up to 60% of the water for 300,000 central coast residents. With the population predicted to double in the next 10 years we cannot afford to be complacent. May I remind you that prior to the construction of the pipeline the dam level was dangerously low with permanent level 4 water restrictions in place across the entire Central Coast.
- The recently constructed Mardi Mangrove Pipeline, infrastructure costing government and tax payers \$120 million has the potential to incur major structural damage causing further disturbance to landholders and loss of water supply to Mangrove Dam.

- Underground coal mining in the Newcastle area since the 1950's was largely held responsible for Australia's most serious natural disaster, the 1989 Newcastle earthquake. The earthquake damage bill of about \$4 billion exceeded the total value of coal extracted in the area.
- Wallarah 2 Coal Mine will produce an unacceptable level of pollution in the form of coal dust and diesel particulate. The proposed mine will be situated next to one of the largest growing areas in NSW and the newly planned community of Warnervale. Fine coal dust particles will have devastating impacts on the health and wellbeing of communities residing near the stockpile, loading facilities and rail corridor.
- Coal dust particles are responsible for respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular diseases and lung cancer. Experts warn there is no safe level of exposure.
- A third of all carbon dioxide emissions come from burning coal. The world has enough technical accessible renewable energy to meet current energy demands six times over.

At a time when the rest of the world is looking to reduce greenhouse gases, why is KORES allowed to resubmit?

By allowing the Wallarah 2 Coal mining proposal you are effectively undermining any international agreements to tackle climate change and placing the lives of people at risk. Please don't be seduced by an illusion of "clean coal" there is simply no such thing.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sherine Coffey', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Sherine Coffey JP