

Director, Mining Projects
Development, Assessment Systems & Approvals
Dept. of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney, NSW 2001
21/6/2013

Objection to proposed Wallarah2 Coal Project – Application No. SSD – 4974

Dear Sir/Madam,

I object to the proposed Wallarah2 Coal mine project for the following reasons:

1. 300,000 people live on the Central Coast and rely for their drinking water on supplies from the Mangrove Dam. The water catchment affected by the Wallarah2 Coal Project feeds into this drinking water supply via the Wyong River and the \$125million Mardi-Mangrove Pipeline. This long-wall mine directly, and through subsidence, is likely to impact on the drinking water supply of the Coast, and the precautionary principle should be applied – do not risk our drinking water
2. 245 homes will be potentially affected by subsidence of up to 2.6metres (Appendix H Map p. 240). They may be entitled to compensation for damage to their homes, but only if the home owner pays for engineering inspections before mining begins, and after defects become apparent. There is no compensation for damage to dams, fences, outbuildings or other land. Compensation can take years – residents at Chain Valley Bay waited over 25 years for compensation. It is unacceptable to put so many landholders at risk of the loss of home value, and the stress of living in a subsidence district. Some landholders bought because they believed Barry O'Farrell's election promise – "no ifs, no buts, it's a guarantee – no mining in the water catchment".
3. Appendix H discusses the risks of subsidence and the uncertainty surrounding the Awaba Tuff strata. If the proponent's own EIS suggests that substantial subsidence may occur, and it affects up to 245 properties, this mine should not be allowed to go ahead
4. Dust, including fine particles, and noise from stockpiling and rail movements will impact on the established suburbs of Blue Haven, Wyee and new suburbs in the northern part of Wyong Shire. There has been inadequate valuation of these impacts, and the proponent should have been obliged to calculate the cost in proper social and health impact statements. Kores themselves acknowledge the increased risks of death. These risks are unacceptable, since the mine is discretionary.

Kate da Costa
40 Albany Rd Umina Beach 2257

[please withhold address from publication]

