

The Director, Planning Services

Dept. of Planning and Environment

GPO Box 39 SYDNEY 2001

17th August 2016

Dear Sir/Madame

Wallarah 2 Coal Project SSD 4974 Amended Development Application

We have some serious concerns about this project and object to the current Amended DA (ADA) on exhibition and also to the further progression of the mine proposal itself. This is based on the points outlined below from the ADA.

- Page 85 of the ADA states that the royalties to the State over the proposed and improbable 28 years life of the mine is \$200 Million which equates to just over \$7 million per annum. With falling coal prices and Government concessional rebates **this figure is inflated.**
- Media reports suggest that the proponent **KORES is withdrawing from overseas development due to massive debt ratios** - future job prospects, development and environmental repair, compensation and rehabilitation have little hope of being realised.
- The NSW government has **removed our right to go directly to the Land and Environment Court and argue our case on Merit Appeal.** Premier Baird has removed that legal right from every community fighting coal or gas in NSW.
- Confidential draft documents circulating through Planning Dept suggest “**second workings**” of coal seams meaning further and greater subsidence over time
- Dust remains a real issue for health in the Blue Haven and Wyee precincts despite partial coverage of infrastructure. **Pm10 emissions from the site are conservative and do not take into account the changing nature of intense wind and storm events in the recent years.** BlueHaven and Wyee townships are now as close as 200 and 400 metres respectively from the new proposal bringing even greater problems for families in the area for both constant dust and noise 24 h/per day with a huge overhead structure on the main rail line and and loading hopper. There are many schools, pre-schools and establishments within 5 kms of the facility and they will suffer from emissions from the site.
- **Noise exceedences are admitted** to for “residences to the north of Bushells Ridge Road at Wyee” and general noise 24 h/per day for those living in BlueHaven and Wyee areas are issue of concern.
- Proposals to have an **air monitor** installed at Wyee have been diverted to an out-of-influence area at Wyong Racecourse thereby distorting air quality readings for the region. Appendix C from the consultants (pages 2 and 3) says “*Fugitive emissions can be*

expected during operation from loading stockpile to conveyor, wind erosion and maintenance of stockpiles and from upcast ventilation shafts”

- 5270 cubic metres per year of semi-solid salt waste for at least 14 years into underground storage and capacity and **salty brine discharges into the Wallarah Creek system**. OEH have expressed concerns - the “ultimate fate of the supersaturated salt solution remains unclear”
- The consultant’s suggestion that “**after more than 500 years**, water levels in the workings (in the Jilliby Creek/Wyong creek catchment) are predicted to have recovered (and not be of concern)” is unacceptable.
- The **Mine Subsidence** Board accepts only about a quarter of claims over the last ten years and will fight any great expense claimed by those who suffer subsidence. Also only the house itself is covered, while sheds, fences pools etc are exempt from claims.
- Wallarah 2 have **failed continually to consult** with any of the people directly affected by the proposal. They have failed to hold any open public meeting explaining the project
- Wallarah 2 have **failed to bring to the public any concept drawing** of the new conveyor system and loading facility near Blue Haven.

We look forward to advice on how this range of issues will be addressed in the current ADA with our view being that given the considerable concerns the application should be rejected.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tahir Turk', with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

Dr Tahir Turk (MComm, PhD)

Senior Partner

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