



Emma McBride MP

Federal Member for Dobell

NSW Government

Department of Planning and Environment

Re: Wallarah 2 Coal Project - SSD 4974 (Amended Development Application)

I write to express my concern about the Wallarah 2 Coal Project, proposed for construction beneath the Yarramalong and Dooralong valleys in the electorate of Dobell.

My concerns relate to the risk the project poses to the drinking water catchment, which provides supply to a significant percentage of residences in the Gosford and Wyong region.

I first became aware of the project, and the risks associated with it, during my tenure on Wyong Shire Council. At that time, I opposed the first development application as did my colleagues at the council.

As the Federal Member for Dobell, I continue to oppose this development in its current form as it is my opinion that the possible impact of the mine on the ground and surface water supply remains unacceptable.

I have reviewed the material provided by the Independent Expert Scientific Committee on Coal Seam Gas and Large Coal Mining Development, as part of the



applicant's original development assessment under the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act, which was captured under the 'water trigger' legislation in 2013.

The advice is alarming - the Committee cites "*significant risks associated with the proposed project having a detrimental and long-lasting effect on an already stressed water supply catchment.*" In particular, the Committee advised "*there are significant risks associated with the proposed project having a detrimental and long-lasting effect on an already stressed water supply catchment.*"

I am advised the development application currently under review still poses potential impact on ground and surface water.

While I find it disappointing that this current proposal has once again progressed to this point, I will continue to act to ensure the community's strong opposition to this development is known.

Thank you for the opportunity to present my personal position on this matter, and to represent the views of the community who have raised this issue with me.



Emma McBride
Member for Dobell