

TO: Planning Services, Department of Planning & Environment

Attn: Director Resource Assessments

GPO Box 39 SYDNEY NSW 2001

MINING IN THE MANNING RIVER CATCHMENT IS A THREAT TO OUR UNIQUE TURTLE.

Purvis' turtle is found only in the clear waters of the Gloucester River and other Manning tributaries - **nowhere else on the planet.**

DNA tests by the University of New England have shown that Purvis' turtle is extremely ancient and may hold clues to the evolution of all turtles.

It has appeared on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species since 1996 but is data deficient. Mine expansion before this species has been studied means that risks to its population health haven't been identified and cannot be managed.

Risks to surface water have been identified and set out in Appendix 6-7 of the 2016 Environmental Impact Statement [EIS] for the Amended Rocky Hill Coal Project, and mitigation measures detailed in Section 4.7.4 of the EIS, however the impact of mining on this unique and beautiful animal has not been considered in the EIS.

Objection to the proposed Rocky Hill Coal Project SSD-5156

Name

Address

I want my name published: ☒ Yes / ☐ No (delete one)

~~I have~~ / **have not** (delete one) made any reportable (over \$1,000 in one payment or aggregated payments to a candidate or party) political donations in the past two years: (if you have provide details)

I object to the Rocky Hill Coal Project because the potential threat to our unique turtle has not been considered in the EIS and make this additional statement:

*These turtles and other animals
living in the Gloucester River(etc)
need their habitat fully protected.*

Signature