

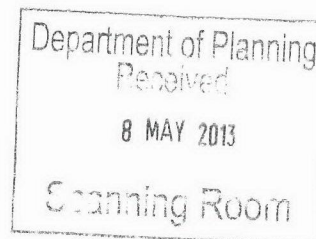
PCU044194

7 May 2013

NSW Government Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Attention: Director Mining and Industry Projects

Re: Watermark Coal Mine
App No.: SSD - 4975, Watermark Coal Project
Submission by: Name: Marita Ranciaud
Address: PO Box 843
Royal Exchange, NSW 1225



Disclosure of reportable donations: I have not made any reportable political donation.

Privacy Statement: I have read the Department's Privacy Statement and agree to the Department using my submission in the ways it describes. I understand this includes full publication on the Department's website of my submission, any attachments, and any of my personal information in those documents, and possible supply to third parties such as state agencies, local government and the proponent and I agree to this.

I am a member of the Carroona Coal Action Group (CCAG). I object to the proposed Shenhua Watermark Coal Mine (Project) at Breeza, NSW.

I have read the submission prepared by Earth Systems for the CCAG and support the CCAG submission.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) prepared for the Project is in many respects general and superficial. The CCAG submission deals with many of the EIS's deficiencies in detail. The proponent may be able to address some of these deficiencies more suitably. However, I would suggest that the proponent's main difficulty in providing a detailed, comprehensive and consistent EIS is that such an EIS would evidence that the proposed Project would have such long term and deleterious effects that the Project should not be allowed to proceed.

A detailed and accurate EIS would show that not only would the area within the Project Boundary be deleteriously affected but also a much larger area of the Liverpool Plains and other districts, particularly when the effects of transporting coal from Breeza to the coast and the type of water use anticipated by the Project is taken into account.

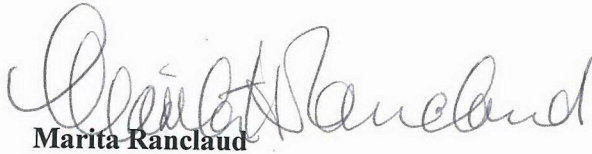
Even with the greatest care (and the quality of the proponent's EIS does not indicate that the greatest care would be taken or even that there is an awareness of what the greatest care should be), the likelihood of damage being done to the quantity and quality of ground and surface water in any mining project is high. There is no real science available on the long term results of interference with aquifers but we do know that if damage is done, in human terms, given our abilities at present, leakage from and contamination of aquifers is permanent and irreparable. The damage done to agriculture and anything else depending on that water would be permanent and irreparable also.

The EIS is obliged to deal with rehabilitation of the areas mined. The CCAG submission points out that this is not addressed well in the EIS. Once again, this may be because such rehabilitation, in a human time frame, is not possible. Even if it were, and even if it took only a few hundred years to be effected, rehabilitation for what? Does anyone really imagine that an army of farmers ready with skills, finance, flocks, seed and other resources will remain in suspended animation ready for the day the areas are rehabilitated, and that native fauna and flora will be ready to spring back from extinction? In the case of a

mining project of the size and scope of that proposed, the pretence that anything other than a wasteland will remain when the coal is exhausted merely pays lip service to the ideals of sustainability and conservation and is an insult to intelligence.

On a more immediate level, the cost to New South Wales of the effects on human and animal life and health caused by air, land and water pollution, generated by the proposed Project and the loss, not only to New South Wales, of the agricultural product and income generated by the area affected by the proposed Project will be far greater than any benefit the proposed Project might bring to us, if allowed.

I urge you to see that the proposed Project is rejected.



Marita Ranclaud