

Planning Dept.

Dear Sir/Madam

I would like to object to the above extension project on the basis of interference with valuable water resources within the Dora Creek catchment area.

WATER

The diminution of the value of the Morans Creek and Tobins Creek catchment areas expressed in Appendix 5 of the Water resources Impact Assessment is alarming. The statement that suggests that these catchments or creeks do not have surface flow for the entire year is simplistic. The very fact that rainfall periods vary greatly and so does creek flow indicates that in some years flows are high and others not. This is the very basic nature of water cycles.

To pre-empt the notion of undermining these tributaries based on simple equations as expressed in the Assessment is outright flippant and dangerous for future water resources.

Planning need to have experts revisit the value of these water resources as they impact also on the important Stockton Creek resource which is also a major source for the integrity of the ecology of Dora Creek.

SALINE WATER CONTAMINATION OF MUDDY LAKE

There is a clear threat of contamination of Muddy Lake, which is a SEPP14 protected resource, by inflow of saline water from the mine. Under no circumstance must a SEPP14 wetland be subjected to unnatural impacts which is why they are afforded the highest order of protection. Planning NSW need to reassess the plan to avoid such impact.

SALT EXTRACTION

The other major concern expressed in the Assessment is the problem of salty brine. The tonnage of salt extracted from groundwater inflows into the mine begins with 1283 tonnes per annum, to almost 3000 tonnes per annum in 2036. These vast amounts of salt extractions transferred to the Borehole Dam and subsequent discharges are not clearly defined. Much more detail is required and greater explanation of the mechanics of controlling and discharge should be clearly shown in the public arena.

It is important for local populations to understand how these large salt depositions are handled over the life of the mine and also the long term impact of saline action upon water resources and fertile land in the vicinity of the catchment areas impacted by this extension. Planning NSW must have Centennial Coal produce clear and defined data for display prior to any approval of this extension being granted.

CONCLUSION

The value of natural water systems ,including tributaries, in NSW is constantly under attack. Consultants must not be allowed to diminish these resources as they have done, particularly in mine assessments, and it is incumbent upon Planning NSW to take hold of these assessments and to have them critically reviewed by independent hydrologists.

Too many water resources have been either destroyed or been contaminated as a result of bad assessment and planning. In 2017 this needs to be arrested and genuine independent hydrological studies must take precedence over paid consultants' assertions such as highlighted above.

We ask that Planning please review both the water resource issues of this Mandalong Extension Project and also the critical issue of salt extraction, treatment and long time storage. Both these issues need to be put on exhibition with clearly defined graphs to allow the public the full knowledge for their critical assessment PRIOR TO THE ADVANCE OF ANY FURTHER PROGRESS TOWARDS APPROVAL.

Thank you in anticipation, yours faithfully

Michael A. Campbell OAM

Lynette M.Campbell

56 Little Jiliby Road Jiliby 2259

43 551287 0417 682 702 e: Jiliby56@bigpond.com