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This Submission is in regard to Whitehaven Coal's proposed extension near Boggabri

While I'm not local, I have visited the area several times and recognise the value as well as the fragility of the ecosystems there. The dire consequences of coal mining extend far beyond the locality in which it occurs and there is no scientific doubt that its repercussions are felt on a global scale. Therefore, being 'local' or not is irrelevant

Whitehaven is proposing to build infrastructure which has a larger capacity than the proposed mine's needs. Will this not facilitate further increases in the volume of coal mined in the future?

My major concern is for the detrimental effects of coal mining on water. The huge amount of water needed for the various needs of miners threaten the health of the already fragile rivers and creeks; aquifers are also vulnerable.

In a dry country we need to treasure every drop of water, not squander megalitres on an out of date industry for the sake of short term financial gain for a few shareholders.

Whitehaven has a shameful record in respect to indigenous peoples' significant sites. Lawler's Well was, for example, destroyed without allowing elders to see the land once last time before it was bulldozed.

Flora and fauna will suffer, at least. No offsets offered, and anyway, offsets are a pathetic unworkable option. Animals and plants are often indigenous to one particular area and do not adapt.

Dust and noise will most certainly threaten the physical and mental health of some of the people of Boggabri.

Mining jobs are few and short term.

There are no ethical grounds on which to approve Whitehaven Coal's Proposed expansion

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