

Submission of Objection

Zirconia Project Dubbo

Application No: SSD-5251

Mudgee District Environment Group (MDEG), based in the Mid-Western Region local government area in NSW, is working for the conservation of our natural heritage and a sustainable future for our children.

MDEG does not support the approval of mine proposals in the Central West prior to the development of a strategic regional land use plan, as expected.

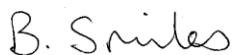
There is particular concern about the Zirconia Mine proposal near Dubbo because it is on the largest known reserve of uranium in NSW. This proposal has the potential to create a backdoor entrance into uranium extraction in NSW.

MDEG does not accept that the proposed management of radioactive materials adequately mitigates the extreme risk identified for this proposal.

There are a range of other high risk impacts from this proposal including the scale of water use, tailings management, evaporation ponds, drawdown of groundwater, possible of pollution of surface and groundwater, loss of high value biodiversity and habitat, and a range of social and health impacts.

MDEG objects to the proposal in its current form and considers that the proposed mitigation of impacts will not address the level of identified risk.

Yours sincerely



Bev Smiles
Chairperson

Monday 18 November 2013