

Jonathan & Elisabeth Moore

“Gilgai”

1140 Wybong Road

Muswellbrook NSW 2333

We object to the Proposal.

The main reason for objecting to the SSD application is the construction of **“additional mine water storages”** in the South Western Catchment.

The large water dams will significantly reduce surface water flow from this southern catchment into our property Gilgai.

Gilgai is a sheep and cattle grazing property located downstream of these large water dams (MWD2 and MWD3) and is an adjoining property.

This Proposal is requesting approval to dramatically increase the disturbance area in the Southern Catchment.

This will reduce the runoff of surface water from this catchment through into Gilgai and into paddock dams.

This will have a devastating effect on the viability of our property.

The EIS does not acknowledge this as a significant impact. Nor does the EIS state that mitigation measures for water lost will be compensated. (**Reference** – *DA Consolidated Consent Document - Schedule 3 Condition 27 – Compensatory Water Supply, Page 12*).

What is not clear is how these water compensatory measures will be implemented.

The second reason for objecting to the Proposal is **SALINITY**.

There are already signs of salinity below dams on Gilgai and salinity has been acknowledged to be of concern in this local Sandy Creek area.

Large water structures in the Southern Catchment will contribute towards significant change to additional ground water.

We request an independent benchmark investigation to be undertaken on Gilgai prior to dam construction, this would be a monitoring and maintenance

program, with costs to be borne by MACH Energy Australia and all results provided.

This Program would include vegetation assessment of the status and extent of salinity indicator plants and ground monitoring bores. It should also include logged photo points.

The benchmarking and monitoring investigation is important to us as a direct neighbour.

MACH Energy Australia are accountable if the landscape on Gilgai changes over time.

Therefore, an Agreement, if there were to be adverse landscape changes for MACH Energy Australia to undertake restoration based on science and best practice – and where this is not attainable, compensation is to be provided.