

20 April 2022

POWC inc. Objection to Blast Furnace 6 Reline proposal

This is a submission from Protect Our Water Catchment incorporated.

Dear NSW Planning Minister Roberts,

POWC inc strongly objects this proposal and we ask ask you to reject it.

The mutually held position of all members of POWC inc is that Bluescope steel should not be using coal from the Greater Sydney Water Catchment.

BlueScope Steel should make plans for their Steel making operations including the proposed blast furnace reline that are not dependent on coal supply from our Drinking Water Catchment.

POWC inc strongly believes in holding BlueScope Steel to their bond which is a commitment to using an environmentally conscious supply chain.

Long wall mining in the water catchment is not environmentally conscious and the impacts of this will go on into perpetuity.

It is known that endangered animal populations such as koalas and frogs are impacted by long wall mining in the Greater Sydney Water Catchment.

POWC inc do not agree with offsetting loss of habitat due to long wall coal mining. POWC inc strongly believes that offsetting habitat loss is not successful in preventing further population declines or even extinctions.

POWC inc does not agree that fixing leaks in Sydney Water supplies is an appropriate offset for water losses into perpetuity from the Greater Sydney Water Catchment.

POWC inc hopes that BlueScope Steel sill find an alternative way to produce steel that does not involve any materials supplied from the Greater Sydney Water Catchment.

As the plans for the blast furnace involve long term use of this local coal, POWC inc is not in support of this development as it stands.

Joanna bradley on behalf of POWC inc.