

I oppose The Dendrobium Mine Extension Project (SSI-33143123)

The Mining corporation Illawarra Coal Holding (South 32) previously submitted a proposed expansion of the Dendrobium Mine in the Sydney and Illawarra water catchment, that was rejected by the Independent Planning Commission.

This revised proposal , may be marginally smaller, but it is still a threat to our drinking water and should also be rejected.

NSW Water has been clear that mining in the special Catchment area causes loss in reservoirs, and the swamps and watercourses that charge them. There is also a high risk of contamination. Current measures for managing this problem are inadequate. The pollution risks in the catchment area are not adequately addressed by the Environmental Impact Statement.

This extension not only puts the quantity and quality of our drinking water at risk but it impacts on biodiversity, koala habitat, aquatic ecosystems. upland swamps, risks of bush fire , sustainable jobs and damage to *Phytophthora cimmamoni*. I am sure you will be able to access expert data all these aspects that demonstrate the inadvisability of this extension.

Declaring this expansion as State Significant Infrastructure essential to Port Kembla Steelwork in basically untrue. Bluescope has made provisions to warrant this extension unnecessary.

In the 2<sup>nd</sup> driest continent on earth nothing is more important than ensuring the quality and consistent quantity of water supply to the 5,000,000 population of the Sydney /Illawarra.

Our drinking water Catchment should be prioritised over a privately-owned Coal mine.

Please reject this proposal.

Thank you