

I H & R A Moore,

18th May,2017.

Department of Planning,
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED].

Submission in objection of the **BYLONG MINE**

We are writing as concerned landowners, farmers and residents in the Hunter Valley to object to the application by the Korean power company, Kepco for the Bylong Mine.

Our family ties with the land and farming goes back to the early 1840's in the Hunter Valley. We have witnessed the destruction that mining is causing to our high fertile land here in the Singleton/Jerry's Plains area, and cannot believe that the Government and Planning department are preparing to allow for the destruction of the Bylong Valley and to the renowned Tarwyn Park's natural sequence farming.

Some of our major concerns of objection:

1. With ties going back to the early 1840's. We believe that European heritage is very important especially the Cemetery at the Catholic Church. Would you like the idea of some overseas mining company digging up your family members and putting them somewhere else? Many years after they were laid to rest in their beloved Bylong Valley.
The social impacts on the Bylong community have already been truly tested. With Kepco moving into the Bylong Valley, six years ago and purchasing tens of thousands of hectares of prime agricultural land, floodplains, thoroughbred properties and homes. There are many historic homesteads and farm buildings that will be destroyed by an open cut mine, along with the Upper Bylong Public School. This school has already closed and many people have left the Valley.
BYLONG was known for the BYLONG MOUSE RACES. They have already ceased.
The remaining private landholders will be left socially and economically stranded.
2. This Valley has a magnificent ground water supply. The River system is over allocated & the local farmers will lose their important water supply. These farmers will be greatly affected by these significant impacts on the groundwater and surface water. We are dependent on the groundwater aquifers in our area and have witnessed what mines are doing to the groundwater aquifers in our area. They deplete and contaminate them. Once this land and water is destroyed and /or contaminated by mining it will not be there for our future generations, for our food security. Why should Bylong and its water source which is known for been at the top end of market for quality and quantity be subjected to depletion for just 23 years of coal mining. Mining is a one off activity.

3. Heavy mine vehicle traffic is proposed to travel through the MUNGHORN GAP NATURE RESERVE and the village of WOLLAR between Bylong and Mudgee. This is a popular tourist drive. Road conditions in the area are very poor and road safety will be threatened by a massive increase of daily mine traffic and heavy vehicles that are associated with mining activities. Mine support/service vehicles are already using the Bylong Valley Way Road. In other mining consents, this road was not to be used by these mine support/service vehicles. These local roads were never constructed to sustain these types of traffic.

This beautiful Bylong Valley is home to some of the best quality agricultural land and water in the Hunter Valley. The Bylong Valley Way surrounded by National Parks and spectacular views is officially one of the top ten drives in Australia. IT IS A VERY SPECIAL PLACE.

Please protect Bylong so it can continue to be part of the sustainable future for Australia. This Valley is of very high quality agricultural land and is truly magnificent. DO NOT let mining destroy the Bylong Valley area, the way it has destroyed the Hunter Valley in the Singleton / Muswellbrook areas.

We respectfully ask that you register our objection to this proposal and seriously consider our objections when assessing the appropriateness of the Bylong Mine.

There is no way that a mine licence should be granted in the Bylong Valley.

Yours sincerely,

I H Moore

&

R A Moore