

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PAC Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: FW: Bylong Coal Project Opposition
Date: Thursday, 4 May 2017 9:46:08 AM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 4 May 2017 9:42 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: Bylong Coal Project Opposition

Hello Jade,

My name is James Shuar and I'm writing to you in opposition of the KEPCO coal mine proposal for the Bylong Valley.
I feel that establishing a coal mine in the Bylong Valley would be a mistake, and a tragic loss for the area and its surrounds.

Coal is quickly becoming a redundant form of power - it's non-renewable and it destroys natural resources where it is mined. The proposed Bylong Valley mine would last for 25-30 years but the area will never recover from the impact - it will remain a wasteland where nothing can grow and I feel that would be inexcusable. The Bylong Valley area has a lot of valuable farm land which would be lost, and aquifers which would be destroyed. These aquifers are incredibly important water sources for the area and their loss would most definitely have a knock-on effect in the vegetation and wildlife of surrounding areas (for example Wollemi National Park, which is a very beautiful part of our country).

I was born in Sydney and now live in the UK. Since hearing about this proposal I can't stop thinking about how terrible it would be for this to go ahead, even though I am not currently there. I first visited the Bylong valley as a teenager 8 years ago, with a friend whose family has owned property in the area for over 50 years. It's a wonderful place with incredible natural beauty - some of my best memories were made on that first visit, and it instilled in me a love of nature and open space which every Australian should feel connected to.

I feel that many people my age (mid 20s) feel the same way as I do about coal mining and the Australian Government's stance on it. I feel that Australia should be investing in renewable energy sources, instead of focusing on coal. If Australia started to focus on renewable energy sources the economy would benefit from the certainty of having such energy sources for a longer time - the future of coal is uncertain and it seems obvious to look for renewable sources which would be cheaper to produce in the long term (and cleaner for our environment). Young people care about the future of Australia and most of us are savvy to the media spin about the coal industry - we know that it's going to create problems for our country in the long run - financially, environmentally, and ethically it is just not sustainable. I don't even live in Australia currently, but I'm a citizen and I care. I plan to move back in a few years time, and I want to do my part in helping to keep our country clean and beautiful - my future depends on it.

No new coal mines should be approved - rather we should expand current coal mines, or reopen those which are currently under "care and maintenance". The Bylong Valley mine proposal should definitely not go ahead as there are currently no finalised plans for water supply, disposal or licensing.

I strongly urge PAC to not go ahead with this proposal. It would mean the loss of an amazing area of our state and country.

I have been advised that I need to include this text in my email as well - I confirm that I have not, nor have any of my associates, made a reportable political donation or gift within the period commencing two years before the this submission was made.

My last residential address in Sydney was:

[REDACTED]

NSW

[REDACTED]

Regards,
James Shuar