

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PAC Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Bylong Valley Coal Project
Date: Wednesday, 17 May 2017 11:58:43 AM

TO: The PAC for the proposed Bylong Coal Project Review

I object to this proposed project.

I submit that the project must be rejected because the impacts far outweigh any perceived or alleged benefits.

The loss of prime agricultural land, a sustainable land use in perpetuity, to a land use that brings runaway climate change one step closer is such a lose, lose, lose activity that we humans must be crazy to even consider it.

I understand that in any case the proposal includes destroying several hundred hectares of the identified Upper Hunter equine critical industry cluster. What protection was this country and land use supposed to be afforded? What does Strategic Agricultural Land really mean? What is the point of considering land use strategically if there is no heed to the outcomes?

In the proposal, the predicted water loss to the alluvial aquifer of the floodplain of the valley could be greater than the recharge rate. This is outrageous. Water is a priceless resource. The risk that the aquifer could never recover should not be taken. It is not economically rational either.

The loss of Regent Honeyeater habitat would be yet another dreadful outcome from approval of this project. The Recovery Plan for this critically endangered species advocates the highest level of protection for the productive habitat in the Mudgee-Wollar area. I understand there are only 300 individuals of this species remaining. We need to maximise their chance of survival, not put another nail in the metaphorical coffin

The transit of heavy mine traffic through Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve and Wollar village is totally inappropriate. The road conditions of this popular tourist drive are very poor and road safety would be compromised. The land use considerations of this proposal are abysmal

The historic Tarwyn Park is being considered for registration on NSW's State Heritage Register. The proposal decimates the living laboratory for Natural Sequence Farming method of regenerative agriculture. This work has been going for 40 years and evidences great promise for other areas. It is irreplaceable as a benchmark.

The area targeted by the mine also harbours significant Wiradjuri cultural heritage, including artwork and an ochre quarry. The Wiradjuri heritage of the area has already experienced profound loss from three nearby coal mines and the Office of Environment and Heritage is warning of "permanent intergenerational consequences" if the loss of these sites continues.

The Bylong Coal Project is unacceptable. The PAC should not consent to this project. It is the rational decision. The bottom line is that there should be no new mines. This Bylong Valley is very much a greenfield and should remain that way. I urge the PAC to reject this proposed project

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