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**Subject:** Submission RE: EPBC number 2014/7133  
**Date:** Tuesday, 23 October 2018 2:05:54 PM

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EPBC number 2014/7133

I have been personally impacted by the disastrous Acland Coal Mine near our Property on the Darling Downs, even though I joined with a group of farmers and landholders and successfully won our case to stop further development of this mine in the Qld. Land court, the mining company though it's unlimited resources and appeals to the High Court of Australia look to have been successful in reversing that Land Court decision, which is an unmitigated disaster for the people of the surrounding area.

This mine in the Bylong Valley will be another blight on the land. The 'Lock the Gate Alliance' (I am not a member of this group) has put forward some extremely good argument against this mine. I am in complete agreement with this group and ask you to consider the points put forward.

How will the Bylong coal mine impact on World Heritage?

The Bylong coal project adjoins Wollemi National Park at the western end of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area.

The Bioregional Assessment for the Hunter subregion identified that the mine could cause draw down of water resources into 137 square kilometres of the World Heritage Area.

A recent independent study of the heritage significance of the Tarwyn Park property, which is part of the mine proposal, found that the scenic values of the Bylong Valley, along with the other valleys at its western end, contribute to the scenic value of the World Heritage area.

That report found that "The Bylong Valley is one of the many valleys of different sizes but consistent geology that together form the western side of the World Heritage-listed Blue Mountains, and contribute to its scenic values."

There will also be noise pollution in the World Heritage Area. The company's Environmental Impact Statement found that "The noise created by the construction and operation of the Project is likely to affect native species and affect the value of the habitats that remain"

There is a cumulative impact occurring as a result of coal mining activities in several locations at the perimeter of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, including the loss of water in Thirlmere Lakes as a result of drawdown from the Tahmoor mine, pollution of wild rivers in the World Heritage Area by the Clarence and Springvale mines and subsidence risks from the longwalls of the Wambo coal mine adjacent to the northern edge Wollemi National Park near Singleton.

As I am sure you are well aware the Hunter River region is now almost unrecognisable as the area my great Grandfather Edward Reginald (Reg) White of Merton Denman once farmed in the 19th and early 20th Century. Most progressive western countries have long since stopped these mining practices in locations such as this. The irreversible damage such mining will do to the area is well documented and can not be overlooked. I implore you to properly consider the facts as presented by the Lock The Gate Alliance listed here:

<http://epbcnotices.environment.gov.au/entity/annotation/37429004-d5cd-e811-a2e6-005056ba00a8/a71d58ad->

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t=1540148881481&fbclid=IwAR1FTr6B9VnymWTzJLCkSBOcErrUVWYsZMVodqEKvu9M7Knucj-  
ZFfdnX0s](https://www.facebook.com/4cba-48b6-8dab-f3091fc31cd5/?t=1540148881481&fbclid=IwAR1FTr6B9VnymWTzJLCkSBOcErrUVWYsZMVodqEKvu9M7Knucj-ZFfdnX0s)

Please list World Heritage as one of the matters of national environmental significance for the Bylong coal project.

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