Ms Carolyn McNally
Secretary,
Department of Planning and Environment
Email: carolyn.mcnally@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Carolyn,

Boggabri Coal Project Mod 7

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I am very concerned and I object to the changes to biodiversity offsets. That is not an administrative change. This change can have a huge impact on the successful outcome of the whole biodiversity offset scheme as it takes away the deadline of December 2019, and creates new uncertainty about the future of offsets, and the biodiversity corridor.

Just when ███████████████████████████████ want more information, we are being told we are going to be entitled to less, as the modification will delete the existing condition only to be replaced by your personal judgment. You would not have to disclose your reasons. From what we are informed it would be just what is "acceptable" to you.

That is unacceptable to me.

This modification is not administrative. It could have a heavy impact, especially if Whitehaven decides to ask for a similar modification and get rid of its deadline, the whole pack of cards will fall, and the Leard Forest offsets will never enventuate.

I object to this being treated as administrative. ███████████████████████, I insist that this change is heard before the Independent Planning Commission so everyone can find out exactly what is happening with these offsets instead of the secrecy and lack of disclosure that exists now.

It certainly looks to the public as though the whole system of offsets is a shambles and we need to shine a light on what is going on. Only the IPC can achieve this. I look forward to the opportunity for all of us to find out what is going on. Is the Biodiversity Corridor going to be mined? Which offsets are going to be taken on by National Parks and Wildlife? Why are the delays in securing offsets condoned by the Department of Planning?

I would certainly be very much appalled if this kind of weakening of offset conditions were to spread to other mines like Maules Creek or Vickery.

Therefore, please accept my objection to the MOD 7.