

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Dartbrook Coal Mine modification 7 (DA 231-7-2000 MOD7)  
**Date:** Friday, 12 April 2019 9:16:34 AM

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Dear IPC,

This is a submission regarding your consideration of this proposal.

I strongly object to the proposal to reopen the Dartbrook coal mine.

1 The evidence is clear: extremely harmful global warming cannot now be avoided but disastrous global warming can be avoided if we rapidly reduce the burning of fossil fuels so that carbon emissions peak by 2020, are reduced by 50% by 2030 and eliminated by 2050; the world cannot burn any more than about 20% of the current known reserves of fossil fuels; there is no need to re-open old coal mines, develop new coal mines or extend in any way an existing licence. Indeed, increasing the output of coal is extremely dangerous for the environment, biodiversity, ecosystems, human health and even the existence of the human species. Approval of this application further imperils the environment on which human health and existence depends and would be reckless. It will make it even less likely that Australia will meet its commitments to the Paris Climate Change Agreement.

2 Re-opening the mine will increase the air pollution, which is already bad, in the Muswellbrook area. There is no safe level of air pollution from the toxic substances emitted into the atmosphere by coal mining and its associated activities. Air pollution is a cause of serious illness, particularly respiratory and cardiac illness and cancer, and premature death. Such illnesses and deaths are completely unnecessary and are preventable.

3 There is no doubt that economic development and employment opportunities are needed in the Hunter Valley. The appropriate response to this need, however, is not to perpetuate the problems associated with a dying harmful industry but to develop safe, healthy, environmentally, socially and economically sustainable regional employment opportunities, of which there are many in the Hunter Valley.

4 The judgement in the Rocky Hill mine application should now be borne in mind with all further coal mining applications in NSW.

I urge you to reject this proposal.

Please acknowledge receipt of this submission.

Yours sincerely,

Peter Sainsbury

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