

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** Dartbrook Coal Mine- Modification 7 (DA 231-7-2000 MOD7)  
**Date:** Friday, 29 March 2019 5:08:39 AM

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I oppose the approval of the Dartbrook Mine Modification

#### Facts

1. Thermal Coal use is in decline throughout the world.
2. The Port of Newcastle is already the largest coal port in the world.
3. Climate change is happening rapidly. One reason for the rapid increase in climate change is the release of methane from coal mines and gas fields.
4. The mine was closed down because it is dangerous. It has very high levels of methane gas in the coal.
5. The mine was very wet and was subject to flooding.
6. The mine proponent is a "newby" and is being re-opened only as a desperate attempt to top up the funds of a failed millionaire.

#### Reasons for opposing the mine modification

1. The mine will release large amounts of fugitive methane and accelerate climate change. When the mine was operating previously local residents could smell the methane being belched from the vent fans that were established on private land. There is no justification for allowing fugitive emissions to escape. If the mine is restarted, then the approvals must include a requirement to capture and use ( eg generate electricity) all methane that is coming out of the coal seams.
2. The original mine had massive problems with flooding. If a mine is flooding, then the local water table must be affected. This will have an adverse affect on local agriculture.
3. Water pumped from the mine must treated and disposed of. Maybe we could just chuck in into the Hunter River. It is already polluted?
4. The mine is in an agricultural area. Turning the mine into an open cut will destroy large amounts of high value agricultural land.
5. Turing the mine into an open cut will create dust and other pollution hazards. The Hunter Valley already is massively polluted and has the highest rate of respiratory disease in Australia. It is time to stop and consider the cumulative impacts.

Thanks for the opportunity to express my views. I live approx. 40 km from the mine ( straight line) and will be affected by the dust and pollution is generates.

Trevor Woolley

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