

  
BLUE HAVEN.  
N.S.W. 2262  
8th. April, 2017

Planning Assessment Commissioners Kruk, Johnson and Hutton

Wallarrah 2 Coal Project

Dear Commissioners,

The reasons for my concerns about the approval of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project remain as stated in a previous submission (copy attached).

Further concerns include;

The imposition of compensatory measures are not reassuring. Some mines remain un-remediated. Companies do not have an impeccable record of meeting compensatory obligations.

In the event that the water supply of the Wyong Valleys is damaged or compromised I suggest that restoration, rehabilitation or adequate compensation would be beyond the abilities of the Wallarah 2 group.

Likewise the possible pollution of the Wallarah and Spring Creeks and therefore the Tuggerah Lakes, could not be remediated and undoubtedly would compromise the breeding grounds of many fish species. Pollution and decreasing fish stock would close the fishing industry of the area.

I question whether climatic events the area has experienced have been considered, such as:

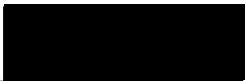
Exceptionally heavy rainfall over short periods producing flash flooding and flooding either due to previous or subsequent rainfall,  
Cyclonic winds (category 2 in April 2015) and destructive winds on other occasions,  
Earthquake (29 December 1989, magnitude 5.6)

All the events mentioned have caused damage in this area. The approval of the Wallarah 2 Coal Project would inevitably lead to pollution from the activities of this project, when the area again experiences such rainfall and wind events.

Health risks have been well established by work done in the Newcastle and other areas. How approval can be sanctioned so close to an existing residential area I do not comprehend. There are over two thousand homes, two child-minding centres and a primary school existing in Blue Haven.

I consider the known health and environmental risks to far outweigh the proposed benefits, which are not satisfactorily proven.

Yours sincerely,

  
S.J. Clay (Mrs.)

Attachment 1

[REDACTED]  
N.S.W. 2262  
29th. August, 2016.

The Director,  
Planning Services,  
Department of Planning and Environment.  
G.P.O. Box 39,  
SYDNEY.  
N.S.W 2001

Dear Sir,

Re: Wallarah 2 Project SSD 4974 Amended Development Application.

I am writing to lodge a strong objection to the Amended Development Application for the Wallarah 2 Project and any approval of this project.

My objections are based on many concerns raised by the prospect of mining under the Wyong Valleys and especially with the locating of a coal-loader close to both existing and approved housing.

My principal objections and concerns include the following:

- **Water** - Whilst I can survive and even live without a number of things I and all I depend upon, be it animal or vegetable, cannot survive without water.
  - The proposed mining being below the ground water-table creates an unacceptable risk to the water supply, through subsidence, which is an acknowledged problem. Further subsidence would undoubtedly follow proposed "second workings" of the mined area and exacerbate such loss.
  - Some eighty million dollars of state money has been expended on a pipe-line to enable water to be pumped from the Wyong water catchment area to Mangrove Dam. Without this supplementary water supply it is questionable that the Mangrove Dam would be able to support the current population of the Central Coast area let alone the proposed population.
  - Contamination of both the ground water and water flowing into the Tuggerah Lakes system cannot be discounted through various aspects of mining and subsequent treatment of the mined coal.
  - The Wallarah Creek and Spring Creek systems are both vulnerable to such contamination.
- **Air Pollution** - Is a known problem from other mining areas and along rail corridors where coal is transported. Both coarse particle and fine particulate matter are known and acknowledged to cause health issues for people living within the vicinity of such activities. This is of concern with a coal-loading facility proposed to be located near existing housing.
- **Noise and Light pollution** - The adverse effects on the inhabitants of increased and continuous noise arising from locating a coal-loader within a short distance of an existing

residential area together with light pollution from the coal-loading area, should not be ignored.

- **Subsidence** - A number of properties are at risk of damage through subsidence and it is inevitable that these properties would also be further effected by a “second working” of the mined area and that the area so effected could extend beyond that currently acknowledged to be at risk. The direct and indirect cost includes both monetary costs to both the state and individuals and undoubted health and social costs arising from stress caused to those whose properties are subject to subsidence.
- **Environment** - The Tuggerah Lakes system is a spawning ground for various marine creatures including fish species fished by both commercial and recreational fishers. It is also used for a number of other aquatic activities.
  - Globally the opening of new coal mines will not assist Australia in meeting the recent internationally agreed target to limit the increase in global temperature to under two degrees Centigrade.
- **Financial considerations** - The possible income to the state may not be sufficient to offset the costs resulting from subsidence, health problems, contamination problems and remediation, if possible, of the environment.
- **Local employment** – The proposed employment gains are unlikely to be met from the local workforce and may not offset the loss of jobs through damage to the commercial fishing industry and tourism.
- **Health** – The cost to the state and individuals adversely effected by pollution arising from coal mining, loading and transportation is unacceptable.
- **Recent State Government action** – The recent “buy-back” of a coal mine license for the Liverpool Plains makes the approval of the Wallarah 2 Project incomprehensible.

In consideration of the above concerns I call upon you to reject the amended application by the Wallarah 2 Project.

Yours sincerely

S.J. Clay (Mrs.)