

OBJECTION RE EXPANSION of WILLPINJONG MINE (WOLLAR)

I am a past resident of the Wollar Community and am very upset by the way my friends have been affected by the Wilpinjong Mine !

Wollar was a vibrant and close-knit community. Somehow the social impact on the remaining residents has not been recognised and the proposed 'Social Impact Management' will in no way solve the current problems.

Many of the former residents of Wollar and surrounding district have of course left (on account of the mines) and those few who remain are being affected by the noise and pollution from the mining!

Add to this the impact on the bushland and loss of Biodiversity! The proposed biodiversity offsets cannot be guaranteed! The proposed conditions allow for failure.... At risk is the critically endangered Regent Honeyeater, which has relied on the Wollar habitat and thrived for many years in this area... This species cannot afford to lose any more food sources!

Again the loss of Aboriginal cultural heritage and biodiversity over the life of the mine has been significant and is irreplaceable... In particular the 'Rocky Hill Complex with Ochre quarry and Art site must not be destroyed!

The proposed extension of Willpinjong Mine, if approved, will only compound all of these effects mentioned. Add to this the proposed 13 million tonnes of coal expected to be extracted by the year 2033, can only signify a massive increase of Greenhouse Gas Emissions at a time when the world is trying to contain the very costly impacts of Climate Change!!

Surely, with the worse than ever Bushfires in 2016, and now floods which have increased in damage effects beyond precedence, we must ask ourselves what

we can do to reverse these conditions , which are spelling out Climate Change, and heralding in an Era, when this cannot be reversed, so increased Coal Mining has to be questioned.....