From:

To: PAC Enquiries Mailbox

Subject: Wallarah 2 Coal Project (SSD 4974)

Date: Thursday, 2 November 2017 1:43:03 PM

Wallarah 2 Coal Project (SSD 4974)

As I am unable to attend the hearing on 3 November, I wish to make further comments in relation to my objection to the above proposal.

As I have said previously, the amended application does not guarantee that the Central Coast's water supply would not be compromised.

Here is a recent story about a long wall coalmine. In September this year after six months of being kept under wraps, reports on the impacts of the Dendrobium coal mine were released, revealing fracturing and bulging, putting Sydney's drinking water catchment at risk.

NSW Department of Planning withheld these reports from WaterNSW, Office of Environment & Heritage (OEH) and the community for as long as they could.

In approving mining at Dendrobium in 2013, the department embraced BHP Billiton's rejection of a 2012 impact assessment that predicted seam-to-surface fracturing, and did so without advising and consulting WaterNSW, and without advising OEH or the community.

How do stories like this affect the faith of communities in their decision makers? The damage to this faith is not small.

If NSW independent decision makers allow water security to be compromised, then NSW governments' reliance on income from mines that threaten a community's water suggests a conflict of interest.

Commissioners, please show your true independence and stop this mine.

Yours faithfully

Beryn Jewson