From:

PAC Enquiries Mailbox

Subject:

Planning Assessment Commission meeting, Wallarah 2 Coal Project, Central Coast LGA 3/11/2017, Wyong

Golf Club, Wyong 2259

Date:

Monday, 6 November 2017 9:43:55 AM

## <u>Planning Assessment Meeting Re-Wallarah 2 Coal Project, Central Coast</u> <u>LGA,3/11/17 at the Wyong Golf Club, Wyong</u>.

Dear Mr David Johnson,

At this meeting it was pretty amazing to see how skilfully you listened to all those 21 protesters' negative opinions without battling an eyelid. Perhaps this outcome was expected. Equally disappointing was not a single intelligent suggestion to rectify the water issue came off the rally from more than a 100 protesting activists.

I am a retired Australian Citizen with no fiduciary connection to any consulting or mining companies. Equipped with several tertiary degrees in Natural Sciences, including post-graduate studies in entomology, fisheries, aquaculture, hydrology; and agriculture sciences coupled to many years of planning and analytical experience with Mobil Oil: plus working knowledge in Malaysian mining and Fisheries industries were incidental to my life experiences. These backgrounds enabled me to investigate the coal-mining problems from different independent perspectives which are sadly missing in this important consultations.

Two months before attending this meeting I studied the disc on the EIS submission of Waratah 2 DA obtained from the Central Coast Council in Wyong. The comprehensive professional statements obviously bias toward the proponent totally dispelled the misinformation conjectured by the protesters. Having heard the opponents' flimsy comments which are targeted to wipe out a nationally significant project, I am stirred to act.

This short submission is forwarded as a fair thinking citizen; without fear or favour with the hope that your Commission's will apply high moral and ethical decisions will bring better benefits to generations of people after us. To do nothing based only on "Precautionary principle is short of being irresponsible; like an ostrich burying its head under the sand."

## **Comments:**

Despite many decades of environmental awareness in Australia the

deliberations of the EIS and SEE in the DA submitted by the coal mining industries are still linked to old linear developmental concepts of "Take, Make and Dispose". Not a word on fresh "systemic thinking" or new modelling like "Circular economy" or "Circular ecology" was mentioned in the proposed DA. Hence, the controversies on "Coal mining and water" persisted.

The proponents dare not refute the colossal water and energy wastages in existing "business as usual" enterprises such as sheep and cattle ranching; and broad-acre ground-water irrigation farming for fear of repercussions.

The coal mining industries should bravely come forward to work with the community to share some of the proceeds of this common wealth for community benefits by increasing food, water and energy production; new circular enterprises and jobs under the auspices of environmental protection and social responsibility.

## Coal mining:

- a. Has the potential to excavate the wealth of the Nation to finance new circular enterprises:
  - (i) Free embodied solar-energy trap eternally as underground coal,
  - (ii) Coal incineration to recycle carbon for plants to feed fauna.

To avoid being long-winded I shall terminate my 5minutes discourse here.

We can share other rational plans with NSW using coal mining to facilitate:

- 1. Change mined land to produce more; cleaner and cheaper food,
- 2. Reduce water consumption in integrated food production by up to 60%,
- 3. Optimise farm energy usage to less than 30% of conventional farms,
- 4. Create circular ecosystems for cleaner land, water and air environment,
- 5. Convert wastes into resources instead of filling in the dumps,
- 6. Complement renewable power with coal fired power generation
- 7. Increase new jobs, prosperity for the people and the Nation,

8.	Innovate new production enterprises after long wall coal mining,
9.	Improve Socio-economic unity and profitability thro' Diversification.

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Kindly contact the undersigned should you need to discuss further				
Thank you.				
Sincerely,				
Man Heng Soo				