

From: [Christine Jinga](#)
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Kepco's Gateway Certificate for the Bylong Coal Mine Proposal
Date: Friday, 2 August 2019 4:46:22 PM

I write to express my deep concern about Kepco's plan to mine in the Bylong Valley and the company's negligence in renewing their conditional Gateway Certificate.

Having visited and camped in the area over many years I am aware of the scenic and agricultural values of the Bylong Valley. I have read the details of the of the expert panel's response in issuing the Conditional certificate with considerable dismay. The report by the Mining and Petroleum Gateway Panel cites "significant impacts" on a large range of criteria relating to the BSAL soils. Given that Kepco succeeded in meeting only 1 of the 11 relevant criteria required and that it allowed its 5 year use by date to lapse is a very poor reflection on its professional competency.

Kepco is proposing a 29 year coal project at a time when scientific bodies are providing irrefutable evidence of human induced climate change. The company's proposed plans are on land which the NSW Farmers Association claims "is some of the countries best agricultural soils". Additional concerns noted by the M&PGPanel include insufficient work on changes to water quality and relocation of 194ha of BSAL soils which would potentially reduce agricultural production through changed drainage and altered rooting depth for plant material. In relation to rehabilitation, the IPC states "no mines in NSW have returned agricultural land or soil profiles to their equivalent state".

I believe the IPC *must* require Kepco to apply for another certificate. The 5 year use by date has been established for very sound reasons. The direct impact on the Heritage listed Tarwyn Park both directly and through subsidence are additional reasons for my concern.

I urge you to take strong action and leadership in this matter.

Yours Sincerely,
Christine Jinga

