

## CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Dear Independent Planning Commission NSW** 

I am writing as a President of the Rylstone/Kandos Chamber of Commerce to support the KEPCO Mine in the Bylong Valley by our members.

The local Chamber of Commerce is made up of a collective of businesses in both towns. Kandos Fairways Motel, Rylstone Hotel, The Globe Hotel Rylstone, Convent & Chapel Wool Shop, Kandos Community Charity Shop, IGA Supermarket, Kandos CWA, Shady Lady Hats, Deb Stone Pottery, Suttor Plumbing, Rylstone Historical Society, Bylong Creek 4X4, Reliance Bank, Kandos, Rylstone Caravan Park, Kandos Services Apartments, Cementa, Adhoc Furniture are amongst it's current financial members.

Through its Community Grants Kepco has provided much needed signage to assist both Rylstone and Kandos in increasing visitation by tourists. Please find attached pictures of their contribution.

Its members struggle each year to maintain a business presence in the two towns. Kepco mine will provide employment, provide additional much needed infrastructure and economic growth to both towns and provide the opportunity for additional businesses to come to Rylstone and Kandos.

Kepco has invested \$600 000 to local community groups, schools, events and local charities. It has developed long term strategic partnerships by providing training and support for local business.

It will spend a projected 1.3 Billion in capital investment in the local area of Kandos and Rylstone. Kandos & Rylstone businesses can attest to how incomes have diminished due to the closure of Kandos Cement Works and recently Sebelco.

I ask that The Commission acknowledge that the Rylstone/Kandos Chamber of Commerce directly affected by the proposed mine support & welcome the Kepco Coal Project.

Regards

Philip Freeman

President

Philip

**Rylstone Kandos Chamber of Commerce**