From: To: Subject: Date:

John Fitzgerald IPCN Enquiries Mailbox Whitehaven Coal's Vickery Extension Project Friday, 10 July 2020 2:27:43 PM

Dear Independent Planning Commission

This is a submission objecting to the Vickery coal mine extension

With the Arctic Circle on fire at 38degrees celsius, the last thing the Australian community needs is an extension to a coal mine. 99% of scientists agree Coal is the Number 1 cause of climate change and fossil fuels are a wrecking ball to the future of our children and our beautiful planet.

Thanks to the efforts of farmers fighting the mine, Whitehaven was forced to move its pits further away from the Namoi River, but now the pits come close to the alluvial aquifer, the productive

groundwater that underlies the river and feeds it. The pits will induce leakage from the alluvial aquifer and the Namoi river itself.

Coal mining is already competing with agriculture for water in this district and building another huge coal mine will be a huge mistake - in dry times there will not be enough in the Namoi district to supply it .

As the rest of the World is turning away from coal and renewable energies are embraced for their economy, protecting environment and precious water - it beggars belief that the IPC could approve what is a death warrant for the farming community of Boggabri. The threat is gut wrenching turning agricultural land into a desert where our country is limited in fertile land and especially water.

Yours sincerely, Jennifer Fitzgerald {Northern Rivers Tea Tree Oil farmer } and Bushcarer Gunnamatta Park, Cronulla