

I'm a 14-year-old boy and my grandfather bought a farm in the Bylong Valley many years ago. My family still owns this beautiful farm. Are you seriously going to let Kepco destroy the Bylong Valley? Bylong valley to me means so much more than just a farm. It is not only where I have had many good memories and funny experiences as a kid that I will never forget. It is where my grandfather is buried. If I heard that you approved for Kepco to proceed in their mining it would break my heart. This would mean that I could never go back to Bylong Valley again and have the fun I had when I was a kid. This included making tree houses, walking to the top of the Ginghi mountain and helping my dad with the cattle.

But the best memory I had at my farm is riding my bike down Lee Creek road and getting a milkshake at the Bylong shop. The road from Lee Creek is beautiful. The dirt road surrounded by gigantic gum trees, boulders and cliffs are full of wildlife. Every time I ride on the Lee Creek road I can hear birds chirping in the trees especially white cockatoos. On Lee Creek road, there are hardly any cars which means it is a safe road for young kids to ride on. Lee Creek road is peaceful and scenic road to ride and drive on.

If you approve the mine Kepco will shut down Lee Creek road. This means that many people will never be able to ride down this road again and experience the things I did when I was a young kid. Also, kids who are not even born yet will never experience riding down through the beautiful forest of Lee Creek road. This lovely place means the world to me, and if I heard that the area around Bylong school is turned into open cut mines it would seriously upset me and many others.