Submission to public hearing re Wallarah 2 Project

To Whom it may concern,

I have been working in underground coal mines for over 30 years and while my income currently depends on coal mining and in particular underground coal mining, I am also acutely aware of the environmental and social responsibilities that projects such as this are held accountable to.

Management plans from the Wallarah 2 Project Management concerning such things as water control, gas emission control, subsidence management, noise control and social impact management will be required and need to be approved by the Secretary of the Department of Planning and Environment if the project gains final approval and is to go ahead. If these are adhered to and kept updated to ensure best practice, it will minimise any impact this project will have on its surrounding environment and those who depend on it.

Wallarah 2 is a great opportunity to inject much needed positivity and employment into the local area which has suffered significant job losses due to the mining recession. If it goes ahead, it will also have significant flow on to support industries. As there is a surplus of highly skilled workers living in the local area, there is an opportunity to reduce local unemployment and keep money earned spent in the local area, benefitting local businesses of all kinds.

I strongly encourage interest groups to work with Project Management to overcome any genuine concerns and not obstruct the progress of this project.

Yours Sincerely