I wish to make a submission regarding the proposed Open Cut Coal Mine in the Bylong Valley near Mudgee. I think this coal mine is a terrible idea. There are so many reasons to cancel it that it’s hard to know where to begin.

From what I understand, it’s going to directly affect over 400 hectares of high quality farmland.

The Bylong River feeds an aquifer that will be adversely affected and may even be pumped dry.

It will spoil one of the most beautiful areas in New South Wales.

It will produce untold tonnes of dirty coal that will ultimately add all the CO2 ­ to the atmosphere of an already heating world. The consequences of adding that to the atmosphere are nearly unimaginaeable.

Just the threat of the coal mine is ruining the social fabtic of the Bylong Valley.

The gains of such a project are negligible compared to the cost. Only a government that has its eyes closed to the danger of global warming could even contemplate mining more coal.

Please do not approve this damaging mine.