

I object to the Dartbrook Modification because:

	There are too many mines already operating in the Upper Hunter creeping ever closer to our towns and agricultural industries. We need more balance in the Upper Hunter not more mines.
	Mining is driving away investment in agriculture and tourism industries, affecting our jobs, polluting our air and water, dividing our community and ruining our rural landscape. We need more balance in the Upper Hunter not more mines.
	The economics of this underground mine do not stack up. Restarting this mothballed underground mine makes no financial or socio-economic sense.
	The economics of restarting this mothballed underground mine do not stack up. The Proponent knows that restarting this underground mine as a standalone project is not viable. This proposal is nothing more than a stalking horse for a future open cut mine.
	The very high risks posed by this proposal to our environment, water, land, agriculture and tourism industries and community for very little, if any, benefit is not in our region's or NSW's best interest.
	I am worried about this mine's water impacts which can devastate our agriculture industries and our community.
	The cumulative impacts of mining on our businesses, environment and community have not been fully examined, explained or costed. How can anyone assess the impacts of this mining proposal without this information?
	I care about the environment. It is not right that the Upper Hunter has the worst air quality in all of NSW because of coal-linked air pollution.
	I am worried about the effects of mining on our stressed water systems – particularly now when we are suffering badly from regular and long periods of drought.
	I am worried about the impacts of 192 one way truck movements a day, 11 hours a day, 5 days a week on our already bad air quality, generating more dust, noise, traffic and safety problems.
	I am worried about the impacts 192 one way truck movements a day, 11 hours a day, 5 days a week on investment in agriculture and tourism industries. Previous PACs have recognised that mining and these industries, in close proximity, are incompatible land uses.
	As a result of mining, we have no certainty in the Upper Hunter to plan for our futures and for the futures of our children and grandchildren.
	I am worried about the health and wellbeing of our community (both physical and mental) resulting from mining related stress, uncertainty and community divisions.
	I am proud of our cultural and Aboriginal heritage, which dates back some 200 years and many tens of thousands of years respectively. It should be protected not destroyed by mining.
	I am appalled that Australia Pacific Coal has made no serious effort to examine the impacts of this proposal on our Indigenous and European cultural heritage and Indigenous spiritual values in and around the Dartbrook mine site.