Russell Vale Underground Coal Mine Extension,

As I sat to write yet another submission against the fossil fuel industry to the IPC I realised, with great sadness, the futility of this.

What is the sense to present the science, the realistic modelling, First Nations rights and the true public opinion to three selected councilors who have been chosen snd guided to approve the project.  Even if these councilors placate their consciences by putting in various conditions, these conditions are to be monitored, if at all, by the applicant and the EPA who has already approved the project.  It is too pathetic to even be regarded as a farce.

'Due diligence' will be seen to have been done.  Has it?

After approving the Adani Charmichael Mine, a gateway operation to open the Gallilee Basin, which is allowed to extract water from the Great Artesian Basin at a rate greater than it refills......

After approving the Santos CSG extraction in the Narrabri project where 850 wells will puncture through the Great Artesian Basin.....

the examples are there to show that the security of water in this desert continent we call home is secondary to the fossil fuel industry. Why would water catchment for Greater Sydney and the Illawara be different?

Where is the protection of our essential water security for our survival?

I will be able to sleep knowing that I did my best to secure a future for the ecosystem of the world.  I fight for social justice for all on the earth.  Who is the IPC helping?

If the recommendations and conditions of the IPC were carried out, it might help.  We all know that this will not happen.  Self monitoring doesn't happen.  The EPA is under funded and overworked.  The government departments involved have already approved.

I wish I could accept what I don't seem to be able to change, but my hope for a better world makes me fight on.

Even if we truly needed fossil fuels, or were in denial of climate change, risking water security is not  justifiable, especially now that renewable energy is in the rise.

I still have hope.

Yours Sincerely

Dr Bronwen Evans