From:
Sent: Tuesday, 16 May 2017 5:27:13 PM
To:
Subject: Fw: Bylong Valley coal mine

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Sent: Tuesday, May 16, 2017 5:20 PM
To:

Dear Ms Hoskins

In this email I wish to tell you of my STRONG OBJECTION to the NSW government granting permission for coal mining in the Bylong Valley. I confirm that I have not, nor have any of my associates, made a reportable political donation or gift within the period commencing two years before this submission was made.

The proposed mine would cause large scale and permanent destruction of prime agricultural land, native vegetation, critical equine land, an iconic landscape, and highly significant cultural heritage sites of the Wiradjuri people. The Bylong Valley was listed as a Landscape Conservation Area by the National Trust in 2013, and the road through the valley has been named one of the top ten drives in Australia by Drive.com.au. How can this government callously flout the pronouncements of a body as distinguished as the National Trust.

Groundwater losses will never recover following mining and stream flow loss in the Bylong River would be 'detectable' in dry conditions – farming cannot be resumed. The project has already disrupted the Bylong community, as it has the Wollar community, with many farming families being forced to leave the district with 'gag orders' enforced.

Coal is becoming a redundant energy source and Australia should be moving towards renewable energy sources, not approving new coal mines.

There is no certainty that there is enough water in the valley for the mine to operate without taking water from the other water users in the valley.

I urge you to consider future generations who will have to cope with the destruction of the environment that this generation is carrying out on a massive scale. They will want to

know why we allowed this absurd and irreversible situation to develop.

Veronica Burns