Dear Secretariat,

Guringai Tribal Link Aboriginal Corporation (Guringai TLAC) is an Indigenous traditional owner group in the Central Coast which proudly boasts lineage to King Bungaree, the most important Indigenous identity in the early colony of New South Wales. Guringai TLAC is one of the two most significant organisations representing the Aboriginal community on the Central Coast, along with the Darkinjung Local Aboriginal Land Council.

Guringai TLAC has been involved with Wyong Coal since 2006 in relation to its participation in cultural heritage studies, reporting and test excavation field work for the Wallarah 2 Coal Project.

Wyong Coal’s successful Community Grants and Apprenticeship Schemes have been available to the whole community (Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal community). However, to promote specific opportunities targeted for the Aboriginal community, in 2015 Wyong Coal and Guringai TLAC entered into the Mutual Advancement Covenant (MAC).

Since 2015 the MAC has delivered:

- Four Indigenous apprenticeships (covering general and school-based apprenticeships/traineeships)
- Two Indigenous university scholarships
- A mentor development program, and
- A scheme to assist the start-up of small Indigenous businesses.

All of the opportunities under the MAC are for the Aboriginal community as a whole and not limited to Guringai TLAC members. In addition, the MAC has provided assistance for the start-up of a proposed Guringai Green Team to undertake environmental and cultural heritage projects on a long-term sustainable business basis. This then allowing Guringai TLAC to be a long term stakeholder in the ongoing cultural heritage and land management associated with the Wallarah 2 Coal Project.

Another key initiative under the MAC is that Wyong Coal has committed to a target of 10% Indigenous employment during its operations, resulting in the possibility of 30 to 50 full time positions direct and indirect with the project. With indigenous unemployment rates being the highest in the country, these positions and the opportunity of creating small businesses (by local Aboriginal people), will make a **HUGE IMPACT** of the **WELL BEING** for the local Aboriginal
Community, through direct and indirect beneficiary of the social and economic opportunities that will emerge across the Central Coast community

**As to the benefits that Wallarah 2 can bring to the Aboriginal Community as stated above:** We are well aware that such benefits can only emerge if the project receives development consent to move forward.

Dr David Pross  
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Director GTLAC