**Submission to PAC re Wallarah 2 Coal Project (R041-17)**

Before stating my final position in regard to this project, I felt it important to list some background credentials to give a level of bonafide to my view.

1. I have no financial or business links with Wallarah 2.
2. I was a member of the Wallarah 2 Reference group 2012 – 2014.
3. I studied all the submissions and analyses over the period and listened to the expert scientific advice given, especially by independent presenters.
4. I have twice visited the Mines Rescue Service in particular as it relates to Wallarah 2 Long Wall mining.
5. I attended presentations by Centennial Coal as a landholder in the Mandalong South extension. Core drilling was undertaken on my property.
6. I toured areas of Mandalong where undermining had occurred and witnessed minimal subsidence over the properties visited. At meetings with stakeholders there was general support for mining to continue. Water, either surface or sub-surface, noise and particle pollution was not considered a problem. Centennial Coal was PAC approved to proceed in October 2015.
7. I have read the Addendum Report of February 2017, and noted that the amendment involved changes to the proposed coal transportation infrastructure together with re-alignment of a sewer connection with all other aspects remaining as previously proposed.
8. I have read the Development Consent document which clearly indicates support for the project and, as such, I respect the technical analytical ability and integrity of the Department in arriving at that conclusion.
9. I have attended Public hearings and read much of the press on the subject. There have been emotional outbursts and even violence connected with opponents of the project and, unfortunately, many ill-informed positions taken. For this reason I was afraid to make a oral submission at the hearing on 5th April for fear of reprisals.

Having stated the above, I wish express my sincere support for the project to proceed forthwith. The science brought to bear in the Wallarah 2 submissions and follow up proposals conclude that the real impact on landowners and the public in regards to water, noise and particle pollution is minimal. Flora and fauna are safeguarded and the safety of the workforce is paramount. There are multiple reviews and checks throughout the Project that will ensure ongoing oversight and good management. The Project clearly brings with it much needed economic benefits to region both in royalties and jobs.

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