I would like to register my objection to the Wallarah 2 long wall coal mine on the Central Coast of NSW. The long wall mine will cause enormous subsidence of my house, my land, my local area, my home. The surface subsidence has been conservatively estimated at 1.3 meters. This subsidence will damages houses, dams and water tanks, roads, services, surface drainage and creeks. Land and house values will fall.

Below ground the strata will fracture interrupting aquifers feeding Wyong river and will also liberate trapped gasses to the surface. I believe we need to retain the natural environment of the vital water catchment. The projected growth of population in the area, that benefits from the water supplied from the aquifers that will be damaged needs to be considered. Water is essential to the growth and development of the Central Coast, the Wallarah 2 long wall coal mine will make the availability of this valuable resource insecure.

The costs on the community are very significant and have not been adequately considered in the mines economic assessment. The following costs and impacts must be considered: Subsidence damage and repairs, land devaluation, loss of water, liberation of mine gasses, noise and dust pollution. This proposed mine comes at a time when the coal fired local power stations are in decline and even being demolished. The coal industry is at a turning point in favor of renewable energy technologies. This mine is in the wrong place and at the wrong time.

The proposal should be rejected as it will have a nett negative impact if all costs are truly included.

Regards,

Michael Mortiss.