

M.A. and L.M. Campbell

[REDACTED]

Jilliby 2259

OBJECTION. Submission on United Wambo Open Cut Coal Mine SSD 7142

Dear Sir/Madam

We wish to strongly object to the proposed mine .

1. Regional air quality is at a critical stage. Clearly the removal of vast amounts of soil to access the 8 coal seams below is a disastrous plan which will add hugely to the air quality, not only of residents in the region, but workers at the mine site and those in support services.
2. The removal of 670 ha of bushland, including majority woodland and grassland, cannot be afforded as this tips toward biodiversity imbalance. This single proposal must not be seen in isolation but must be seen as a major regional impost upon not only people's health, but a massive impact on many species of flora a fauna, many already endangered.
3. Groundwater drawdown is not adequately addressed, as is the case with most mine plans, yet the water table is the most fundamental support system that we rely upon. Once again there has to be a cumulative approach and deeper study of water tables and aquifers to justify any more impacts such as this proposal. This also needs to be independently assessed by outside water authorities, not just consultants paid by the industry.
4. The true cost of a tonne of coal is not being considered. Impacts such as stated here (water, dust, loss of vegetation, loss of biodiversity, tipping the ecological balance viewed in the cumulative sense) are true costs that must weigh against any benefit perceived. The next generation will want to know why we didn't adequately protect their environment and support system and simply assessed short cuts to an immediate so-called "benefit". This is 2018 and we are not in the fifties any more.
5. Assessment must take into account the Precautionary Principle, ESD and Intergenerational Equity which at this very moment are vital issues being argued in the NSW court system. This is where we are right now. Your decisions must bear out this very current scenario. To not do so is a denial of human and ecological rights embodied in broad legislature.
6. Jerrys Plains, Bulga and other communities in the region, have all gone before Planning Commissions arguing that their communities have suffered enough. In fact Bulga/Milbrodale have won two court cases in NSW only to be denied those findings in their favour. The NSW legal system must be able to find in favour of communities expecting that in their decision finality is absolute.
7. This mine plan must be rejected.

Yours faithfully

Michael Campbell OAM

Lynette Campbell

[REDACTED]

