

Attention:

Steve O'Connor John Hann

Independent Planning Commission

DENDROBIUM EXTENSION PROJECT(SSD 8194)

I object and equally oppose the current proposal Dendrobium Extension Project SSD 8192.

As a citizen who has seen the destruction and loss of surface water, endangered ecological communities – [Newnes Plateau Shrub Swamps](#), dry creek beds created by long wall mining in our area in Lithgow for many years and what seems to be written on paper never reflects the exact impacts that are seen out in the field. Why are we still allowing this to still happen? The legislation needs to be reviewed with inclusion of government staff to monitor company reports *in the field* with full cost recovery at the expense to a company.

This proposal is in a protected “Special Area” of the water catchment, as well as supplying 5 million people with drinking water. Do I need to say more to the government for long term planning for water Sydney into the future, with predicted 1.3 million people by 2036! Noting WaterNSW “is concerned that any increase in arsenic (or other heavy metals) may have a negative effect on water quality and aquatic ecology.”

The upland listed state and federal Endangered Ecological Communities swamps of the Woronora Plateau play an important role by capturing and holding water, filtering it and in times of drought releasing it slowly into the creeks and rivers that feed into the reservoirs. Equally a planned natural protection zone for into the future will be cost effective given the predicted risks of climate change and increase in higher intense bush fires. By retaining this area as is it will reduce the states future economic burdens, meaning likely to reduce intensity of bushfires, reduce health costs and any other related post fire economic burden.

Let common sense prevail with economic sustainability into the future and not short term planning economic gains.

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission for the above project.

Yours truly

Julie Favell

Lithgow