

From: [Josephine Grieve](#)
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Cc: [goulburn@parliament.nsw.gov.au](#); [wollondilly@parliament.nsw.gov.au](#); [angus.taylor.mp@aph.gov.au](#); [A.Albanese.MP@aph.gov.au](#); [Stephen.Jones.MP@aph.gov.au](#); [WinZero](#); [editor@smh.com.au](#); [editor@news.com.au](#); [rosie@shexpress.com.au](#)
Subject: Tahmoor South Expansion
Date: Tuesday, 20 April 2021 8:40:23 AM

Attention: NSW Independent Planning Commission (IPC)
From: Josephine Grieve, BALLB MA

Re: Expansion of Tahmoor Coal Mine, Bargo and extension to 2032

i) Letter from Applicant to the Department, dated 9 April

2021: https://www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/resources/pac/media/files/pac/projects/2020/10/tahmoor-south-coal-project-ssd-8445/correspondence/department/210409-in-applicant-letter-to-dpie-regarding-scope-1-greenhouse-gas-emissions_redacted.pdf

ii) Letter from Department, dated 12 April

2021: https://www.ipcn.nsw.gov.au/resources/pac/media/files/pac/projects/2020/10/tahmoor-south-coal-project-ssd-8445/correspondence/department/210412-in-dpie-cover-letter-regarding-scope-1-greenhouse-gas-emissions_redacted.pdf

Submission: Please postpone and refuse approval of the Tahmoor South Expansion.

At a time, when the Federal Government of Australia and the NSW State Government are committing to reducing carbon emissions to zero as aggressively as possible this project will create 20,549,599 tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂-e).

Collateral damage of this project is projected to include the loss of housing in Bargo and the destruction of the local environment and significant cultural sites invaluable to First Australians and the whole of humanity.

In a basic cost-benefit analysis the Tahmoor coal project expansion should be rejected:

Costs

: in the short term, contributing to further extreme damage caused by unmitigated climate change across the whole of Australia with disastrous consequences for our own shores and our near neighbours in the South Pacific. (\$ Trillions)

: in the long term, the loss of an inhabitable planet for future generations, our grandchildren (beyond \$ value)

: further isolation of Australia in an international context where further reductions in emissions by 2030 will be agreed by the majority of responsible leaders under initiatives of President Biden and the European Union (beyond \$ value)

: potential tariffs and trade exclusions because of failure to reduce emissions (\$ Billions)

: environmental damage and tainting of Australia's image affect tourism (\$ Billions)

: real cost to lives of those whose houses will be damaged. (\$ Millions)

: destruction of sites cultural significance to Australia's First Nations and further tarnishing of Australia's reputation (although motivations are different, mining destruction of sacred sites has been compared with the Taliban's destruction of the Buddhas of Bamiyan). (Beyond \$ value).

: significant environmental damage to land and potential compromise of water table (Beyond \$ value).

: failure to retrain/support those whose jobs will be affected by winding down of coal-mining now cost the economy in the long run (? value)

Benefits:

: Short term profit to offshore owner while Australia and NSW receives any taxes remaining after deductions and subsidies. (\$ value to Australia?)

: Employment opportunities for 200-400 residents (who can and should be protected from loss with appropriate financial and related support)

: Short term political gain for major political parties ?

Ongoing coal mining is not logical in the contemporary context. The sooner that Australian leaders realise this and confidently lead their constituents to a carbon free future, the sooner the whole nation will benefit from the exploitation of renewable energies and the conservation of our unique and beautiful home.

It is sad to think of the potential damage caused by the Tahmoor South Expansion, unnecessary and devastating, for the sake of the two major political party's stubborn refusal to acknowledge the reality and lead Australia to a carbon-free future.

Yours faithfully

Josephine Grieve