

**From:** [Olimpia Marina](#)  
**To:** [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Help stop a gassy coal mine  
**Date:** Monday, 21 February 2022 5:28:42 PM

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We demand STOP THIS CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND THOSE INVOLVED BE FORCED TO PAY COMPENSATION FOR PAST DAMMAGE DONE TO THE ENVIRONMENT

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**From:** Chris Gambian [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, 21 February 2022 4:47 PM  
**To:** Olimpia Marina [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Help stop a gassy coal mine

Just south of the town of Narrabri, next to the Pilliga forest, is the Narrabri underground coal mine.

Hi Olimpia,

Just south of the town of Narrabri, next to the Pilliga forest, is the Narrabri underground coal mine.

The most unusual aspect of this mine is how gassy it is. The amount of methane released by mining the coal is massive, and because methane is a very powerful greenhouse gas, absolutely dreadful for the climate.

Whitehaven coal is currently before the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) seeking to expand the mine to dig up another 100 million tonnes of coal over an extra 13 years through to 2044.

The project will release 34 million tonnes of greenhouse gases directly from the mine site and 456 million tonnes overseas when the coal is burnt. It doesn't matter where these emissions occur, they all fuel climate change.

Even after the mine closes, methane leaking from the mine will keep polluting the atmosphere for decades. Whitehaven Coal estimates 1.7 million tonnes will leak after the mine closes in 2064. This is obviously incompatible with NSW achieving net-zero emissions by 2050.

**You can actively oppose this mine by making a submission to the Independent Planning Commission.** Even a submission of a couple of sentences can help show the public opposition to expanding this coal mine.

The Independent Planning Commission has made some good decisions in relation to coal expansions in recent times. Your submission can help make a difference.

You can send an email directly to the Independent Planning Commission at [ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au) or use their [online portal](#). (Submissions close on Friday, 25 February). The subject should be: "Submission against the Narrabri Underground Mine Stage 3 Extension Project".

Points you may wish to include in your submission are:

- Expanding coal mines is incompatible with a safe climate.
- We will not meet our international climate commitments if we keep expanding coal mines or opening new ones.
- The project will release 34 million tonnes of greenhouse gasses locally and a 456 million tonnes when the coal is burnt overseas.

- If the expansion is approved, this mine will become the second most polluting mine in NSW for direct greenhouse emissions.
- Approving this proposal is inconsistent with NSW Government emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2050.
- The methane emissions from this mine will have an unacceptable impact on the climate for many decades.
- This mine expansion will harm productive farmland and damage significant areas of the Pilliga forest, which is home to many threatened species.
- The Pilliga is Gomeri Country. Damage from the mine will directly affect cultural values, including potential cracking a well-preserved grinding grove site.
- Local farmers will lose precious groundwater to the mine, with at least nine farm bores affected. Water will be less available to the Pilliga region.
- It adjoins the Narrabri coal seam gas project and will lead to massive cumulative impacts if both proceed.

*Lock the Gate Alliance* have prepared a [detailed submission guide](#). You can also view the process and detailed documents and other submissions on the [Independent Planning Commission's website](#).

Thanks for your support,

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**Chris Gambian**  
**Chief Executive**  
**Nature Conservation Council**

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*We acknowledge the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the lands and waters of Australia. We pay our respects to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Elders past and present, and aspire to learn from their traditional knowledge to help nature thrive.*

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