

To the Independent Planning Commission,

My name is Robert Wildman, a 72 year old retiree living in Summer Hill, Sydney. Before retiring, I was in the IT industry for 43 years. I am also a keen bushwalker and have walked in many parts of NSW and Tasmania. One of things I've noticed over the last few years is the increasing temperature when in the bush and away from air conditioners. I lead many walks into places which, I fear, are becoming hotter due to climate change. This brings with it the horrible prospect of being caught in a bushfire in remote country.

**I am writing to object to Yancoal's expansion of the Moolarben Coal Complex.**

I have made a short list of the reasons I see for rejecting this proposal:

- Employment – I don't see any appreciable change in the number of jobs being offered by this proposal. This is the usual defence for approvals of such projects and in this case I can't see it making a difference
- Threatened Species – I won't list them but suffice to say that this is a current breeding ground for koalas and we are all acutely aware of the plight of these iconic animals. Again, please don't be swayed by the offset argument because it has been an absolute lie for many projects like this one. It doesn't save the animals which have been re-located – its effectively their death knell.
- Water – We have seen the disasters which have followed the coal mines around Lithgow and the non-compliant actions of the mines with regard to water quality and waste control. There have been so many breaches of the conditions which have been set by the Planning Commission and the courts in regard to these mines, how can we believe that Yancoal could be any different. Damage to water supply is clearly one of the most important aspects of this development.
- Climate Targets of the NSW Government – how can the NSW Government afford this to go ahead **and** still meet its climate reduction targets. This mine will expel, over the life of the mine, 64 million tonnes of GHG emissions. How does that fit in with our state goals of reducing climate emissions?
- Markets Declining – Surely Yancoal, like every other investor, can see that there will only be an ever decreasing market for this product as renewables quickly fills the gap. Why do we have to give them 12 more years to allow more emissions to flood the planet when the return must only be a decreasing one. Scope 3 emissions must be taken into account.
- Recreation and Culture – the proximity of blasting to within 100 metres of Munghorn Gap and the impacts of the expansion on the Wirudjuri sacred sites are both reasons for rejecting this proposal.

I ask the Planning Commission to reject this expansion of the Moolarben Coal Complex completely. Please do not give approval with conditions which, as we know from past experience, will not be adhered to by the company.

Yours Sincerely,

Robert Wildman

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