



The Secretary,
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

via email:

Carolyn McNally, Secretary, Department of Planning and Environment
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Cc: Stephen O'Donoghue, Planning Officer
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Dear Secretary,

Re: Boggabri Coal Project
Project Application Number: 09_0182 Mod 7

I object to this modification. Our local community has been provided with not enough information to assess the Modification with. We, and our environment will be impacted by this decision.

I am concerned about the increase in cumulative impacts stemming from this worrying trend of putting changes through without proper exhibition. Using the terminology “administrative” or minor modification appears benign. But it isn't. This happened when WHC sought an administrative change to consultation and the community have not been able to comment on the water management plan.

Piece by piece our community is being overrun, and the original approvals are changing and with no oversight from the community to see the overall picture. These modifications are involving less oversight – offsets, transport of coal, exploration and drilling along with Tarrawonga common boundary. This is not minor to the community or environment.

Further, this has become a Non-transparent and unfair process. The determination by the Planning Department that five modifications to Boggabri Coal's Project Approval is minor in nature or administrative is wrong. The reasons this was considered minor or administrative are missing and it is unclear why this Modification has been put as minor or administrative.

3. More information and a public process: The community needs more information and a public process to assess the full impacts and the secretary needs more detail. There are questions to answer.

4. The community would rather the government put energy into ensuring local mines work to their Current Approvals rather than removing or changing conditions to avoid compliance.

I am of the opinion that this modification project should have more information provided to you and the community and that the exhibition period be extended for a further 28 days and be referred to the Independent Planning Commission (IPC) if necessary.

Yours sincerely



