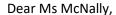
Ms Carolyn McNally Secretary, NSW Dept Planning and Environment GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001.



Re: Boggabri Coal Mine (Mod 7)

We have only very recently become aware of the DoPE's apparent plan to complete the assessment of the Boggabri Coal Mine (Mod 7) application in the very near future.

In our view, the modification can hardly be seen as simply minor. It will enable potentially quite significant changes to the operation of the mine and the way in which biodiversity offsets might be secured.

We are extremely concerned that the modification is being rushed, that there is possibly insufficiently thorough accompanying information and that there is no planned exhibition period – all of these predicated on what we believe is a mischaracterisation of it as being relatively insignificant in terms of scope and impact.

We endorse any call to not have the application determined under the former s75W of the (old) EP&A Act. We believe decency and transparency vis a vis the community, and the need for appropriate rigour in assessment, demand the application be determined under s4.55 (formerly s96) of the EP&A Act, that it be formally exhibited for public comment and, if interest in it is found to be sufficiently strong, referred to the IPC for determination.

Sincerely

