

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 3:10:39 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 15:10

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Mamie

Last name

van der Walt

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Everon Hills 4053

Submission

I am writing to object to the release of new areas East of Mudgee for coal developments.

I'm objecting because:

1. The warnings in the IPCC report released on Monday could not be more stark. As the International Energy Agency's path to 1.5 degrees report found, no new coal, oil or gas developments are compatible with a safe future for our children. Recent findings that current and abandoned coal mines are emitting vast quantities of the potent greenhouse gas methane simply underscore the importance of leaving coal in the ground.

2. Given moves this year by NSW's main coal export markets (Japan, China and South Korea) to reduce their emissions, including specific statements regarding the contraction of their coal use, expanding coal in NSW is economically irrational and irresponsible. Taxpayers and local communities will bear the brunt of clean up costs from mines that are started but become stranded. (Assuming the mining companies can get finance and insurance in the first place). These projects will not create sustainable jobs as is claimed.

3. Local communities will also suffer in terms of environmental degradation, risks to water supplies, and health impacts from coal dust and other pollution.

No more coal...please! Invest in renewable energy.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 3:11:05 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 15:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jane

Last name

Gye

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Cowan 2081

Submission

Human induced climate change is an existential threat to humanity. It is made worse by the burning of fossil fuels such as coal. To allow more coal exploration is immoral. Effort must be directed at reducing, not increasing the threat. Hence I am vehemently opposed to this process.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 3:15:56 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 15:15

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Katrina

Last name

Stomann

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

McMahons Point 2060

Submission

I am writing in favour of leaving the coal in the Hawkins and Rumker areas in the ground. We cannot afford to mine this coal, for the sake of global warming, destruction of the ecological system, and damage to Aboriginal cultural sites. We must moves away from fossil fuels starting now, not in 2030. My Dad worked in the mining industry back in the 1960s he told me that coal and gas would be running out by around about now, and that new energy resources would be developed including solar, wind and geothermal ... that it would be better for clean air, clean water and for nature. That was 60 years ago, why are we waiting? Do not grant anymore coal or gas exploration permits, or anymore coal mining or gas extraction permits. The time has run out.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:59:27 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:59

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

derek

Last name

robertson

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Tweed Heads, 2485

Submission

When I was a young graduate newly introduced to the workforce, we used to march around Adelaide proclaiming to all and sundry "leave uranium in the ground" and we were more or less successful in changing the public mind on the wisdom of a 'uranium economy'.

Now, in the wake of umpteen IPCC reports, the mind of the public is clearly made up and the Australian people remain almost unilaterally opposed to further coal exploration and extraction, so the cry on this occasion would be to 'leave coal in the ground'.

The reasons for this change of heart are summarised at length in the IPCC Report, but think first of the 3 million native animals annihilated in the East Coast bushfires in 2019-20, and think of the 20% of East Coast rain- and wet sclerophyll-forest and wildlife habitat razed to the ground.

Australian governments of all stripes can clearly make and unmake regulations at will but it is clear from the reaction to the IPCC Report that many jurisdictions have failed or refused to read the public mind, and that will certainly be their undoing if they continue to facilitate additional coal mining and exploration.

The choice is up to them, but it will be on their heads if they fail to listen to the voices of science and to the voice of their communities.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:55:06 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:55

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Rylstone 2849

Submission

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW2124

I [REDACTED]

From [REDACTED] Rylstone NSW 2849.

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration for the following reasons:

Significant Increase to Traffic Volume, Noise Pollution & Accidents on [REDACTED].

We live on the corner of [REDACTED] & our home is 32 metres from [REDACTED] & 9 metres from [REDACTED]. Any increase in traffic volume, especially heavy vehicles would significantly increase the noise levels we would experience in our home. Our home is also 52m from the [REDACTED]. This Bridge has been the site of multiple accidents in the time that we have lived here & I believe that any increase to traffic volume or introduction of mining trucks will increase the number of accidents at the [REDACTED].

Impact on our only permanent water source.

Throughout the drought both our dams completely dried up & [REDACTED] became our primary source of water for our livestock. We also use this water for our household. It is the only supply of permanent water we have on our property. In January 2020 during the Kerry Ridge Bush Fire we chose to stay & defend our property when told to evacuate because we had this valuable resource available & were able to refill our fire-fighting tanks from the [REDACTED].

I am extremely concerned about how coal exploration could impact on our water supply from [REDACTED]. Coal mining could disturb or pollute [REDACTED] or [REDACTED] could potentially disappear altogether. This would leave us without the ability to water livestock during drought or able to quickly refill firefighting tanks in the face of a fire.

Environmental Impact on National World Heritage Listed Area

I am concerned about the potential impact mining in the Hawkins/ Rumker area could have on the Femtree Gully Reserve & Wollemi National Park due to the close proximity to these areas. There are a number of endangered species that inhabit these areas & investigation of BIONET doesn't accurately reflect this. I am concerned at this lack of documentation & how it could impact on the submission evaluations.

I Have not made any political donations in the last two years.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:47:45 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:47

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Melanie

Last name

Turner

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2780

Submission

I live in Katoomba and I am a regular visitor to Gungahdy National Park. I completely oppose any mining exploration on this valuable National Park. With the IPCC report putting the risk of climate change at red alert, the absolute last thing we should be doing is allowing more coal mines!!

The impact on waterways and the flora and fauna -that are still struggling to bounce back from the recent bushfires is too great. We should be fortifying the community from the mistakes that have got us to this catastrophic place, not continuing to make the same mistakes.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:45:00 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:44

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Angela

Last name

Michaelis

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2041

Submission

The International Energy Agency has stated that the world cannot begin even one new coal mine or gas project if we are to stay below 1.5 degrees C global warming. The UN Secretary-General has declared a Code Red for Humanity following the report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. In this light, a new coal exploration area at Hawker-Rumker is both a waste of money and morally reprehensible. Please reject this suggestion outright and instead investigate planning projects that have a future compatible with a liveable future for humans and other species.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:43:29 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jenny

Last name

Ransley

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Rosetta

Submission

The future of coal is already doomed, as a major player in the current climate change situation. This project would be an expensive and unnecessary white elephant, and should not be allowed to go ahead. In addition, this whole area has been deemed to be a national park, and as such projects like this cannot be allowed to continue.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:42:40 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:42

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2233

Submission

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW 2124

[REDACTED]

Heathcote NSW 2233

16/8/2021

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration. My reasons are outlined below.

I am 43 years of age and have been visiting the area of concern all my life. It is one of the most beautiful natural environments NSW has to offer and, in my view, is so often underappreciated and overlooked. I have spent so much of my childhood around the region visiting family and exploring the territory, I would like to do the same with my own young family. I feel coal mining in the area may make financial sense to a few big companies, but not in any interest of those who live and love this country. Not in the mind of anyone who values the environment and the future state of the world. Coal is not used for decoration – its used to burn – and as such is a significant threat to world climate. Please don't mine coal.

The Hawkins Rumker REF that the Government prepared states there are no known Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places in the area, and no threatened fauna and flora. To suggest that this is the case is naive or false.

To suggest the waterways, flora and fauna can be protected has been proved false time and time again in the face of coal mining. One needs only to look at the environmental disaster of the Woronora river tributaries after mines have cracked the bedrock, draining wetland and creeks in a critical water catchment area.

One of the greatest threats is to our region's precious water supplies. This area is rich in natural springs and bores. Exploration and mining can have significant impacts on the water resources of a local area. Drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers. Once the water is gone, it is lost forever.

Open cut and underground coal mines have caused water contamination and have destroyed biodiversity in waterways.

The Rylstone Dam catchment is in the proposed exploration areas. The upper catchment of the Cudgegong River feeds into the water supplies of Rylstone Dam and Windamere Dam. The Hawkins Rumker proposed release areas threaten the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla; water flow to Mudgee may also be negatively impacted.

Without water, there is no life. There are no communities. There is no agriculture, no tourism, nothing to fight bushfires with.

There are a lot of endangered flora and fauna species as well as endangered ecological communities which could be lost. NSW BioNet has recorded 293 threatened or endangered species in the Mid-Western Regional Council LGA.

Waterways would be disturbed or destroyed, and this would lead to a loss of fish habitat and threatened fish species.

The riparian meadows along Reedy Creek and Breakfast Creek could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Cox's Creek is thoroughly unique and would be under threat.

Mines would transform our beautiful area into an unsightly, industrialised one and negatively impact on the value of the amazing World Heritage area on our doorstep.

There are a significant number of Aboriginal heritage sites within the areas, including art and ceremonial sites, that are at risk. We have a duty as a nation to protect these sites.

Significant sites have already been destroyed by mining and our laws are inadequate to protect these sites.

The people in the region have built long-term sustainable economic stability for this region. Businesses that have helped build the tourism industry in which revenue stays in the pockets of our local businesses. These businesses are incompatible with mining: tourists do not come to see coal mines.

Mines provide a flow of revenue to governments and their owners, however, the flow on to local businesses and local communities is generally not seen. The Hunter is the biggest coal export terminal, yet they only contribute to two percent (2%) of State Revenue: the rest goes overseas. They are

...the future... mining Australian coal, and Australians don't see profit, we see a lost natural resource, and a permanently damaged environment which we must then live with.

If the "pro" is job creation, this is another farce. People with the skills tend to follow the mines and very few additional local jobs are created. Like many industries, mining is becoming more automated, requiring fewer people. Over the next five years, mining is predicted to create just 0.4 percent of new jobs across all of Australia. That's not enough to be worth the damage it causes.

Yours sincerely,
[Redacted Signature]

I agree to the above statement
Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:40:26 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Elisabeth

Last name

Bell

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2780

Submission

I am extremely concerned about this proposal for a coal exploration in the Hawkins and Rumker areas. Firstly because coal as a power source should be phased out asap considering the state of disasters related to climate change on a global level. It is grossly irresponsible to be considering short term economic benefits against the long term damage done to the planet and future generations.

on a more local level there is endangered flora and fauna in this area that needs to be protected.

Water is the most important resource in this region for farmers and wildlife so it should not be wasted on a coal mine or potentially contaminated by it

There are significant aboriginal sites in the area that need to be protected

The community of the area enjoy the natural water source of Ganguddy for swimming and recreation and this shouldnt be placed under threat at all.

I am prepared along with other community groups to place myself in the way of the machinery if this coal exploration is approved

Sincerely

Elisabeth Bell

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:32:51 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:32

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Charbon 2848

Submission

I am opposed to the Rumker/Hawkins area being opened for coal exploration. I have a property near Kandos. Places I take friends and family for their scenic beauty and birdlife are Fern Gulley and Growee, which are within the proposed area. I have seen the desolation and total destruction that open cut coal mining brings to the land around Ulan and the Hunter valley. To do this to that area would be devastating. Rylstone, Kandos and Lue attract a lot of tourists who drive through the scenic countryside to get there. I have seen the aftermath of the bushfires along Bells line of road. The climate is changing and burning millions of tons of coal is a strong contributor to that. Also the fuel required to mine and transport coal further contributes to emissions, changing the atmosphere to hold more heat. Now is not the time to open more coal mining. I urge the NSW government to not allow this area to open to coal mine exploration.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:32:18 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:32

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

NAOMI

Last name

CALLAGHAN

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

WAUCHOPE NSW 2446

Submission

GLADYS BEREJIKLIAN PROFESSES TO BELIEVE IN CLIMATE CHANGE AND PROPOSES A DEVELOPMENT WHICH WILL GREATLY EXACERBATE THIS PROBLEM I COULD TALK AT LENGTH OF THE PLANTS AND ANIMALS THAT WILL BE AFFECTED AND THE ENVIRONMENT WHICH WILL BE DESTROYED BUT CONTRIBUTING TO THE DESTRUCTION OF THE PLANET WILL AFFECT EVERY LIVING THING. WE MUST START TO PHASE OUT THE PRODUCTION AND USE OF COAL FOR THE SAKE OF ALL SPECIES. THE COST OF CONTINUING TO BURN COAL IS FAR GREATER THAN THE ECONOMIC COST OF PHASING OUT THIS DIRTY INDUSTRY. THE HYPOCRISY OF THOSE WHO SAY WE ARE SAVING THE PLANET BY MINING AUSTRALIAN COAL WHEN WE ARE ONLY CONTINUING ON THE PATH WHICH HAS GOT US TO OUR CURRENT PERILOUS SITUATION IS MAKING THEIR ARGUMENT FIT THE DIRECTION THEY WISH TO TAKE. DO NOT CONTEMPLATE THIS NEW MINE

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:22:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:22

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Maddison

Last name

OBrien

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2852

Submission

Hello!!!! Climate Change!!

CO2 emissions are the leading cause of global climate change. Here is a proposal to allow thousands if not millions of tonnes of CO2 to be released into the atmosphere. The fact that there are new coal projects proposed at all seems fundamentally threatening to not only local people but Australians and the global population as a whole. We are already seeing catastrophes related to climate change around the globe, leading to mass displacement, famine, and death, including disasters in our own backyard such as the black summer bushfires. If this coal project goes ahead, it will be a direct contribution to the increasing number and severity of climate change-related disasters.

The only benefit I can see to this mine going ahead is the creation of jobs. However, an investment in any other kind of industry or infrastructure can provide such jobs without as much environmental destruction. Tourism in this area to wineries and ecological areas is a provider of jobs to local people but a mine will disrupt these jobs, the addition of jobs, as well as the loss of jobs in the area due to the mine, must be considered.

I have lived in the region most of my life and have experienced the harshest drought in my lifetime in 2019. I never want to see the land in such poor condition as that. Drought has significant social, economic, and environmental implications, some are still being felt and some will never be recovered.

A mine in the area will have terrible risks to our water security and quality. After such a horrendous drought, how can such a risk to the water even be considered? Will our region (which is a massively productive agricultural area) be compensated for such disruptions and contamination to the water cycle?

Water is crucial to life here in regional NSW. We can not put a cost on it. It is precious. Without it, there will be no townships here. Is that what you want?

- Mines have a significant negative impact on the water resources of a local area.
- Even exploratory drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers. The supply of water in creeks and rivers decreases.
- Once the water is gone, it is lost forever.
- Open cut and underground coal mines have caused water contamination and have destroyed biodiversity in waterways.
- Subsistence/Subsidence from exploration and mining can crack rock substrate and lower water tables.
- The Rylstone Dam catchment is in the proposed exploration areas. The upper catchment of the Cudgegong River feeds into the water supplies of Rylstone Dam and Windamere Dam.
- The proposed release areas threaten the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla; water flow to Mudgee may also be negatively impacted.
- This region recently came out of a long drought. What will happen in our next drought if there is a coal mine using so much of our water?

The world is moving away from coal. Australia is falling behind on its climate change and energy policies. No one wants a future where drought, wildfires, and scarcity are the new normal. No one wants to live in a future where our Coral Reefs are gone and it's too hot to grow crops. More coal = less hope for the future.

The Government is supposed to protect its citizens and make decisions for the greater good. Money and Jobs are not a good enough reason to destroy the beautiful and diverse environment in Rylstone. It is not a good enough reason to jeopardize our children's futures and it is not a good enough reason to ignore the climate catastrophe that is happening NOW.

I say NO to COAL. Look around, the whole world is increasingly saying no to coal.

Does the government place any value on Aboriginal heritage?

There are many significant Aboriginal heritage sites in the exploration zone. Many of these are not yet officially documented. The existing Hawkins Rumker Review of Environmental Factors incorrectly states there are no known Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places in the area. This is despite the documented official records as well as local knowledge pointing to many more sites.

Once again our Aboriginal brothers and Sisters have been disregarded by the Australian authorities as not important. Go to these sites, document them properly, and recognize them. This is not fair!

Why do we need more coal?

The premise supporting the release of these areas undermines and contradicts more recent government policies. It even contradicts its own strategic statement about the future of coal. 'Opening up the Hawkins and Rumker areas is diametrically opposed to the stated intent of "giving our coal-reliant communities time to adapt". This region is not reliant on coal. This reasoning is analogous to stating drug rehabilitation is needed while introducing heroin to a community.'

I am personally distressed, angry, and saddened by this proposal. As a young person, I am not alone when I say I suffer a tendency towards ecological grief. I see the world and the uncertain future we all have to share. Climate Change is now. We need to act to actively reduce emissions and sequester carbon in soils and plants. This proposal is a kick in the guts for me, my community, and mother earth.

Thank you for considering my points of concern. I sincerely ask that this proposal be retracted. We need renewable energies. Not dirty coal. There is NO FUTURE IN COAL, only death and environmental destruction that future generations will look back and curse us for.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:22:11 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:22

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

kim leanne

Last name

spriggs

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

new lambton 2305

Submission

i am a Wiradjuri / Mowgee woman and are opposed to i am opposed to the Hawkins and rumker areas being opened for coal exploration as this will lead to coal operations and i want it stopped now. the area has specific cultural significancy to my mob and family . we have sacred sites that will be under threat. of destruction or disturbance. that will harm us culturally and spiritually as our ancestors have been the custodians walked that land. for generations. we sacred rock art as well as spiritual resting that should never be disturbed. we still conduct . as wiradjuri people we still teach and and have cultural practices at these sites . even though i live in newcastle i come home to country on regular basis for cultural purposes and walk and connect to my country and my ancestors . and want this to be able to continue to bring my grandchildren and there children to practice there culture and connect both spiritually and culturally to country. i am against any mining that will affect our water sources. the impact of mining could result in the cracking and depleting of our precious water sources. which can result in drought and affect our towns. not to mention what it will do to the flora and fauna our people are the protectors of our wildlife and we are spiritually connected to them. any depletion of plants or water would have significant affect on them. as well as the fish that is a food source. and put under threat species of fish. these areas have been significant. food sources for us the wiradjuri people. and sacred ceremonial sites. the grasslands and swamps would be under immense threat from mining. not to mention the pollution it would cause affecting the health of surrounding towns farming areas. and wildlife and fish species as well as the quality of the water in our creeks swamps river. i am also concerned about the impact of our community with the damage to roads with coal trucks and machinery. also the noise and vibrations that will be caused. from the blasting. not to mention that the miners will take up the housing for the area making the cost of housing to expensive for members of the community. which in turn could drive up food costs as well. as well as crime rates with alcohol. it will turn what is beautiful landscapes. into big holes in the ground and very unsightly. it will affect peoples health from coal dust such as asthma and lung issues. and cardiac problems. there have been significant Aboriginal sites destroyed by mining across Australia. and i do not want my Wiradjuri Ancestral lands to suffer the same fate. so i officially request as a Wiradjuri woman and elder of my family that you cease and desist. in allowing this mining exploration and any further mining. to occur on Wiradjuri land . sincerely kim spriggs yanhanhadhu/goodbye mandaang guwu/thankyou.dharraay/please wudhabarbidyabu gulbalaabu/listen and hear.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:19:06 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:19

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Lyn

Last name

Bevington

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Lawson 2783

Submission

This area should be left as it is and not be explored for coal as the area is rich in Wiradjuri heritage, including 26 separately recorded sites such as rock shelters with painted or engraved art, camp sites and grinding grooves.

The area has a very intact landscape with almost two-thirds of it covered in native vegetation and more than 10% known or potential threatened ecological communities and it contains high value waterways, covering over 63km of creeks in good or moderate stream condition, which are fragile to disturbance.

It includes headwater streams of the Cudgegong River in good condition, which is part of the Macquarie River catchment in the Murray Darling, and the upper catchments of the Goulburn River, which flows into the Hunter and thence to the coast. It is essential to protect these water ways.

To the north east, the Rumker release area runs along 33km of the border of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Concern has already been raised at the World Heritage Centre and IUCN about the potential impacts of eight mining operations on the boundaries of the site.

There are several records of Koalas in the Hawkins area. A scientific study undertaken by BioLink found that 71% of Koala populations had been lost in six fire-affected areas in northern NSW after the catastrophic 2019/2020 bushfires.

Other important species recorded in Hawkins-Rumker include the critically endangered Regent honeyeater and the nationally-endangered Spotted-tailed quoll, which is reliant on large, intact habitats with oldgrowth elements to survive.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:15:06 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:15

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Tumby Bay SA 5605

Submission

This plan you are proposing to mine on Aboriginal Land is more than heartbreaking. These are people's homes sacred sites and ancestral places. You say your sorry you want to reconcile then in the same breathe you want to take our lands. Stop this think about the lives you are affecting and future generations i say no to mining, no to destroying water areas, no to destroying habitat. Thank you

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:11:12 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Will

Last name

Pearson

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

4069

Submission

We are deeply disturbed by the NSW government proposal to release these areas for coal mining on a potentially massive scale.

The extraction of coal and the subsequent burning of it are utterly incompatible with any remaining hopes to limit the destruction of our climate.

All resources must immediately be utilised to move Australia from pole position as climate action laggards, to leaders in zero emission energy.

Right now is our last opportunity to modernise our energy sourcing, prior to international tipping points removing any control we have over humanities' and nature's future.

Please immediately cease such catastrophic fossil fuel folly.

Thank you.

Will & Leonora Pearson

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:09:16 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

David

Last name

Thompson

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Bondi, NSW 2026

Submission

Director Energy and Resource Policy,
 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
 Locked Bag 502
 Parramatta NSW 2124

David Thompson

Bondi, NSW 2026

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration. My reasons for how it will impact me are outlined below.

I am 74 years of age and have been visiting the area for 30 years.

Issues with the PRIA Process

The Hawkins Rumker REF that the Government prepared is fundamentally flawed. The area does not correctly represent the Hawkins Rumker area, and it also states there are no known Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places in the area, and no threatened fauna and flora. One question is how the government can assure that any future exploration licenses would include "strict environmental management conditions to protect native vegetation, fauna, land, water resources, heritage and community values", when their own exploration process couldn't get it right.

The Independent Commission Against Corruption Report, Reducing the opportunities and incentives for corruption in the state's management of coal resources 2013, included recommendations that there should be community consultation. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has been aware of the potential coal release areas in Hawkins and Rumker for a year, however they only issued notices for community consultation in June 2021.

Community consultations were advertised for 29 and 30 July 2021, yet the portal for online submissions opened two weeks before this on 14 June 2021. The only people in the region who were notified were landowners whose properties fell within the boundaries of the exploration zones. Apart from this, the only other notification provided were one-off advertisements in a few newspapers. This is not notifying the nearly 3000 residents in surrounding areas on Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon, Clandulla, Lue, Dabbe, Olinda and Kelgoola. Why is it that these people would not be notified of potential new coal release areas when they receive their water from the potential release areas, and the coal would be transported through these areas?

The community consultation meeting were capped at four groups of 50 people, with one of these to be held in Mudgee. How could this possibly be a real attempt to have consultation with a population of nearly 3000 people?

There is no transparency in how the Government will weight and evaluate the submissions during the PRIA process. The Government has not agreed to make the report on the PRIA outcomes publicly available prior to its submission to Cabinet. This is also contrary to the Independent Commission Against Corruption findings, which highlighted the role of public officials in providing frank and independent advice to a minister and noted that public officials continue to remain vulnerable to potential demands to change recommendations to align with a minister's wishes.

Worldwide trend to move to sustainable energy sources

The Reserve Bank of Australia anticipates international thermal coal demand to decline in the long-term as renewable electricity generation becomes more viable.

In its Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining in NSW released in June 2020, the NSW Government describes one of its four actions is supporting diversification of coal-reliant regional economies to assist with the phase-out of thermal coal mining

Australia exports 75 percent of its coal to Japan, South Korea and China. These countries have followed other countries in a worldwide trend and committed to move away from fossil fuels, which will result in decreased demand for coal.

This year, the G7 has committed to end public support for unabated coal generation by end of 2021.

The International Energy Agency Roadmap for the global energy sector states the world's coal will decline to just one fifth of current levels by 2040, and to one tenth by 2050.

Water

One of the greatest threats is to our region's precious water supplies. This area is rich in natural springs and bores. Exploration and mining can have significant impacts on the water resources of a local area. Drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers^{10, 11}. Once the water is gone, it is lost forever.

Open cut and underground coal mines have caused water contamination and have destroyed biodiversity in waterways.

The Rylstone Dam catchment is in the proposed exploration areas. The upper catchment of the Cudgegong River feeds into the water supplies of Rylstone Dam and Windamere Dam. The Hawkins Rumker proposed release areas threaten the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla; water flow to Mudgee may also be negatively impacted.

Without water, there is no life. There are no communities. There is no agriculture, no tourism, nothing to fight bushfires with.

Flora and Fauna

There are a lot of endangered flora and fauna species as well as endangered ecological communities which could be lost. NSW BioNet has recorded 293 threatened or endangered species in the Mid-Western Regional Council LGA.

Waterways would be disturbed or destroyed, and this would lead to a loss of fish habitat and threatened fish species.

The riparian meadows along Reedy Creek and Breakfast Creek¹⁶ could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Cox's Creek is thoroughly unique¹⁶ and would be under threat.

Mines would transform our beautiful area into an unsightly, industrialised one and negatively impact on the value of the amazing World Heritage area on our doorstep.

Aboriginal Heritage

There are a significant number of Aboriginal heritage sites within the areas, including art and ceremonial sites, that are at risk. We have a duty as a nation to protect these sites.

Significant sites have already been destroyed by mining and our laws are inadequate to protect these sites.

Impact on current local economy

Large areas would become coal mines. The proposed Hawkins Rumker coal release areas cover approximately 32,000 ha of land and would directly affect 180 landholders. There will be a loss of agricultural lands, farms would disappear or lose their water, and productive agricultural lands would be dug up or left fallow.

The people in the region have built long-term sustainable economic stability for this region. This revenue stays in the pockets of our local businesses. Businesses that have helped build the tourism industry in the region include vineyards, olive groves, horse studs, beef and sheep farms, eco-tourism, short stay accommodation, restaurants, cafes, antique shops, soft furnishings and knick-knacks for example. These businesses are incompatible with mining: tourists do not come to see coal mines.

Mines provide a flow of revenue to governments and their (mostly foreign) owners, however, the flow on to local businesses and local communities is generally not seen. The Hunter is the biggest coal export terminal, yet they only contribute to two percent (2%) of State Revenue; the rest goes overseas.

Mining is a specialist industry. People with the skills tend to follow the mines and very few additional local jobs are created. Like many industries, mining is becoming more automated, requiring fewer people. Over the next five years, mining is predicted to create just 0.4 percent of new jobs across all of Australia.

Just the threat of new mines being developed decimates many of the existing businesses as people stop investing or move away – even if the mine ultimately does not get approved. This has already happened in nearby Ulan, Wollar and Bylong.

The cost of living, especially housing, is often driven up to levels locals can no longer afford, as they cannot compete with the high wages miners receive.

Local towns close once the mines move on as they no longer have the income from the mines they were dependent on; and unemployment and associated issues such as crime, increase. This is the very reason strategies such as transitioning communities dependent on coal mining in NSW are required.

Social & health implications

Air, water, soil and noise pollution, do not stay within the boundaries of the coal mining sites.

The neighbouring Hunter Valley is now a pollution 'hotspot' and has some of the highest rates for respiratory and cardiac conditions in NSW.

There would be a lot more traffic, including heavy vehicles on our local and rural roads. Traffic incidents increase from mine workers travelling to and from work. The quality of our roads is already very poor and they are not suited to increased or heavy load traffic. Historically, mines in this council area have been loath to put money into fixing any traffic issues created by their presence.

Noise and vibration will dramatically increase with blasting, heavy earthmoving equipment and machinery operating in the mines 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and by coal being transported out on trains and trucks running through our towns.

Trains and trucks are not covered and the coal dust and associated pollution from transporting the coal can travel for kilometres.

Mines can be associated with increased rates of alcohol and drug abuse, violence, sexual assaults, and other crimes in adjoining communities.

Health effects are already being felt as people experience anxiety and stress about the threat to their region²⁸ and economic stability.

Yours sincerely,

David Thompson.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:09:07 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 14:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Helen

Last name

Smith

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Greenwich 2065

Submission

I strenuously object to the opening of new areas to coal exploration. I am flabbergasted that this is even being contemplated. As anyone in authority read the latest IPCC report? How is this decision compatible with the "Code Red"? In addition to disastrous and dangerous emissions, mines will be environment wrecking. I'm speechless!! Please think of our children and grandchildren and do not open this area up to exploration.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:55:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:55

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Paxton

Submission

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:50:24 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:50

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Barbara

Last name

Finch

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2350

Submission

I am against the Hawkins Rumker coal exploration because it is internationally agreed that fossil fuels must be phased out in order to avoid catastrophic climate change. It is completely irresponsible to explore for further coal mining.

Even without the global consequences, the damage to the environment at the local level would be extreme with damage to waterways, air pollution, and disruption of a beautiful area of the state.

From my eighty years of life on this blue and fragile planet, I urge you to prevent exploration for further coal mines.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:45:16 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:45

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Michael

Last name

Gill

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Darling Point

Submission

Director Energy and Resource Policy,
 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment

Parramatta NSW 2124

16 August 2021

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I am opposed to any development or exploration of coal in the Hawkins Rumker area. My reasons are outlined below.

I am 68 years of age and have been visiting the area for 45 years.

Issues with the PRIA Process

There are seven steps in the NSW Government's Strategic Release Framework for Coal and Petroleum Exploration¹. The first step is to consider potential release areas based on initial resource assessments.

One fundamental document in this process is the Review of Environmental Factors (REF). The Hawkins Rumker Review of Environmental Factors² is fundamentally flawed, stating there are no known Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places in the area, and no threatened fauna and flora. This is, imply, wrong and would be obvious to the most casual inquiry. Had the REF been correct, it is questionable if the rest of the PRIA process would have followed.

Part of the effort to respond to past corruption over coal development in the area, a key element of this process is community consultation. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has been aware of the potential coal release areas in Hawkins and Rumker for a year, however they only issued notices for community consultation in June 2021. Community consultations were advertised for 29 and 30 July 2021, yet the portal for online submissions opened two weeks before this on 14 July 2021. The only people notified in the region were landowners within the boundaries of the exploration zones. Apart from this, the only other notification provided was an advertisement in a newspaper. Residents in surrounding areas of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon, Clandulla, Lue, Dabee, Olinda and Kelgoola were not notified. Everyone in this area relies on water from the proposed mining and would have coal trucks passing on their roads. The community consultation meetings were capped at four groups of 50 people, with one of these to be held in Mudgee. Clearly, there was an intent to avoid full consultation with the thousands of people involved.

It would seem now to be vital that the whole process be laid open for view.

Viability and risk

No significant financial institution will invest in coal mining today. Insurance companies are withdrawing services. Banks will not lend to it. It would be incumbent on the Department to demonstrate that a responsible, financially capable organisation was willing to undertake and manage the full term operating risks and make good obligations required to allow any such mining to occur. It would seem obvious that no such company exists.

Coal mining is in fact being actively phased out by the NSW Government under its energy policy. The ESB has indicated that no coal power station will operate in NSW after 2030.

Australia's export markets for coal are all committed to sharply reduce coal consumption and imports over the next decade.

Water

This area is rich in natural springs and bores. Exploration and mining often has significant impacts on the water resources of a local area. Drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers and mining has often created severe pollution of water sources.

The upper catchment of the Cuddegedga River feeds into the water supplies of Rylstone Dam and Windermere Dam. The Rylstone Dam catchment

is in the proposed exploration areas. The Hawkins-Rumker proposed release areas threaten the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla; water flow to Mudgee may also be negatively impacted. Without water, there is no life. There are no communities. There is no agriculture, no tourism, nothing with which to fight bushfires.

Flora and Fauna

NSW BioNet has recorded 293 threatened or endangered species in the Mid Western Regional Council LGA12.

The riparian meadows along Reedy Creek and Breakfast Creek could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Cox's Creek is thoroughly unique and would be under threat.

Mines would transform our beautiful area into an unsightly, industrialised one and negatively impact on the value of the amazing World Heritage area on our doorstep.

Aboriginal Heritage

There is a significant number of Aboriginal heritage sites at risk within the areas, including art and ceremonial sites.

Impact on current local economy

The regional employment today is heavily dependent on the environment. Mining of this area would simply destroy a large part of the attraction for travellers and tourists, vacationers and the many people who venture from cities for a break.

Large areas would become coal mines. The proposed Hawkins Rumker coal release areas cover approximately 327,000 ha of land and would directly affect 180 landholders. There will be a loss of agricultural lands, farms would disappear or lose their water, and productive agricultural lands would be dug up or left fallow.

The people in the region have built long-term sustainable economic stability for this region. This revenue stays in the pockets of our local businesses. Businesses that have helped build the tourism industry in the region include vineyards, olive groves, horse studs, beef and sheep farms, eco-tourism, short stay accommodation, restaurants, cafes, antique shops, soft furnishings and knick-knacks for example. These businesses are incompatible with mining: tourists do not come to see coal mines.

Mines provide a flow of revenue to governments and their (mostly foreign) owners, however, the flow on to local businesses and local communities is generally not seen14. The Hunter is the biggest coal export terminal, yet they only contribute two percent (2%) of State Revenue; the rest goes overseas15.

Mining is a specialist industry. People with the skills tend to follow the mines and very few additional local jobs are created14. Like many industries, mining is becoming more automated, requiring fewer people16. Over the next five years, mining is predicted to create just 0.4 percent of new jobs across all of Australia17.

Just the threat of new mines being developed decimates many of the existing businesses as people move out – even if the mine ultimately does not get approved. This has already happened in nearby Ulan, Wollar and Bulong.

The cost of living, especially housing, is often driven up to levels locals can no longer afford18, as they cannot compete with the high wages miners receive.

Local towns close once the mines move on as they no longer have the income from the mines they were dependent on; and unemployment and associated issues such as crime, increase. This is the very reason strategies such as Transitioning Communities dependent on coal mining in NSW5 are required.

Social & health implications

Air, water, soil and noise pollution do not stay within the boundaries of the coal mining sites. The neighbouring Hunter Valley, was once renowned for its clean air and beauty, and is now a pollution 'hotspot' 19. It has some of the highest rates for respiratory and cardiac conditions in NSW.20, 21

There would be a lot more traffic, including heavy vehicles on our local and rural roads. Traffic incidents increase from mine workers travelling to and from work22. The quality of our roads are generally already very poor and are not suitable for increased or heavy load traffic. Historically, mines in this council area have been loath to put money into fixing any traffic issues created by their presence.

Noise and vibration will dramatically increase with blasting, heavy earthmoving equipment and machinery operating in the mines 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and by coal being transported out on trains and trucks running through our towns. Trains and trucks are not covered and the coal dust and associated pollution from transporting the coal can travel for kilometres.

Mines can be associated with increased rates of alcohol and drug abuse, violence, sexual assaults, and other crimes in adjoining communities.14, 18, 23

Health effects are already being felt as people experience anxiety and stress about the threat to their region24, economic stability and devaluing land values.

I have not made any political donations in the last two years.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:43:06 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

ADELAIDE

Submission

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now.

Lack of consideration for Aboriginal Ancestors remains, as well as destruction and disturbance of the sacred and significant sites including and not limited to resting areas, water systems, artefacts, rock art, cultural practices and teaching and learning opportunities that are still used and practised to this very day.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:42:19 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:42

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Andrew

Last name

Lovett

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2289

Submission

The fact we are continuing to extract coal, a dying commodity at the expense of

1. Native animal habitat
2. Farming land
3. Indigenous land
4. Climate security

Is absolutely offensive to the majority of your constituents.

That is all.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:38:42 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:38

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

David

Last name

Freeston

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2533

Submission

This proposal is totally unacceptable. The local and worldwide environmental impacts are beyond imagination.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:37:07 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Runker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:37

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jennifer

Last name

Cheney

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2528

Submission

I am amazed that with the IPCC report just released, that ANY government thinks taking more coal out of the ground is somehow ok. No. It is not. Coal should remain in the ground. It sweetens the land for magnificent pasture. It needs to stay where it was designed to be.

I think our time of burning coal is well over and it's time we realised that and moved on. Put greed aside and put our planet first.

Surely, if we want to continue to survive, then it's time to put the planet first.

I love the coal areas because they are beautiful and rich and green. As soon as we start to extricate the coal, the area becomes dirty with coal dust and trucks and machinery and it looks like any other tip. We promote ourselves as 'the smartest creature on the planet but no other creature has shown such contempt for our environment as us, and no other creature thinks it's ok to extinct others for their own gain.

Time to grow up. No more digging up coal.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:27:11 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox; [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:27

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Carly

Last name

Dober

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Reservoir

Submission

I am a 31 year old practicing school psychologist alarmed at the proposal to open up the Hawkins-Rumker area for new coal projects.

My concerns for the social and physical health impacts are as follows:

-Air, water, soil and noise pollution, do not stay within the boundaries of the coal mining sites. Underground mines must bring the coal to the surface

-The Hunter Valley is now considered a pollution 'hotspot'. It has some of the highest rates for respiratory and cardiac conditions in NSW.

-There would be a lot more traffic, including heavy vehicles on our local and rural roads.

-The quality of our roads is already very poor and they are not suited to increased or heavy load traffic. Historically, mines in this council area have been loath to put money into fixing any traffic issues created by their presence.

-Noise and vibration will dramatically increase with blasting, heavy earthmoving equipment and machinery operating in the mines 24 hours a day, 7 days a week

-Coal is likely to be transported on uncovered trains, trucks or overhead conveyors running through our towns, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

-Air quality would be reduced due to coal dust from blasting, mining and transporting coal.

-Mines would transform our beautiful area into an unsightly, industrialised one and negatively impact our mental wellbeing.

-The transient and shift work nature of miners can often result in an increase in violence and crime in the affected and nearby communities.

-Socioeconomic divides form, as locals are often unable to compete with the high wages of miners who drive up housing and other costs.

There is no future in coal. We need to transition rapidly to renewables and become the clean energy powerhouse Australia has the potential to be.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:20:44 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:20

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Loretta

Last name

Reilly

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Fairlight

Submission

We are at an age where the we need to stop continuing to destroy this planet and all those who inhabit it.

Your draconian intentions to start a new coal mine makes this country a cancerous toxic growth on the world's efforts to repair and build healthy life growing renewables.

Please invest in some common sense and explore more right ideas to benefit this country and the world and create sustainable jobs and not the finite activities for making monetary gains for the greedy few.

Sincerely

Loretta Reilly

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:11:25 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Kandos

Submission

My name is [REDACTED], I am a landowner within the Hawkins Rumker proposed coal exploration area. I am greatly shocked and saddened that our unique and beautiful region, that has been slowly but steadily building a long term sustainable tourism industry would be considered for destruction through large scale coal mining. Not only will the physical mines and the related infrastructure destroy and/or heavily impact our beautiful natural heritage, destroying tourism for short term gain, but becoming "coal towns" will also have a lasting social impact.

As we know coal mining has a very finite lifetime that often creates a "boom and bust" scenario. During the "boom" there's money to be made and high housing demand that pushes up prices (often pricing any young person not a miner out of the market and out of the area) but then when the coal inevitably runs out, in maybe 20 years max, then our towns will be left with masses of excess housing and now plummeting housing prices, creating a ghetto.

As a land owner who has appreciated this area's natural beauty for over 20 years and has witnessed it's slow but progressive gains as a tourist destination over that time as well as appreciating the diversity of the culture we have and also having seen it struggle through and slowly rise up after the loss of it's last big industry (cement works at Kandos) I will be vehemently opposing any new large coal mining industry being established here and we along with our neighbours will be refusing to sell if it comes to that.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:09:24 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2076

Submission

I am making a submission against the release of land for coal mining in the Hawkins Rumker area for coal mining.

I object to this release on environmental grounds. It will have detrimental effects on the water and wildlife in the area.

I also object on climate change grounds. More coal mines will increase carbon emissions causing further warming of the planet.

The financial community is divesting itself of investments in coal. If this coal mining goes ahead it has the potential of becoming a stranded asset with subsequent effects on unresolved environmental restoration and on divisive community and region aspirations.

I object to coal mining on human health concerns. Coal mining has also proved to be detrimental to human health to the nearby communities and also to the burning of coal for energy in communities where it occurs.

I urge you to consider the advice of science and the research from the 2021 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change which unreservedly tells us to leave fossil fuels in the ground.

Thank you for your time in allowing me to object to the proposal.

In hope

[REDACTED]

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:06:37 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:06

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jane

Last name

Anderson

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Katoomba

Submission

Please no more coal exploration

The Environment global report is absolutely devastating and we need to reverse the damage , New Coal is not the way !!

This area is incredibly special , we need to really preserve our Natural Areas ,for the future

I absolutely disagree with this proposal

Lets Be innovators with energy , Im sure Rural and Urban dwellers will agree the time is NOW to change

Thankyou

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:03:40 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:03

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Joshua

Last name

Zeunert

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

McMahons Point 2060

Submission

Is this a joke?

Seriously?

Did you see this:

<https://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar6/wg1/>

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 1:01:55 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 13:01

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Pamela

Last name

Sheahan

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Nowendoc 2354

Submission

In light of the recent IPCC Report, it beggars belief that any Government could still propose releasing more land for coal mining. Coal is a stranded asset, and has no future. Apart from the environmental damage to the local area concerned, there is not a human being on the planet who will not be adversely affected by the continued burning of fossil fuels. It is morally reprehensible to sacrifice the future of all life on Earth for short-term financial gain.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:54:04 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:54

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Carolyn

Last name

Learoyd

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2540

Submission

I write to oppose the exploration plan. I have over the last several years spent and will continue to spend significant time staying on a property, Pindaroy, Cox's Crown Rd, Rylstone, which is included in the exploration area and enjoying the delights of historic Rylstone. The area is geologically spectacular and the bush is populated with various fragile native species. Severe fires caused widespread habitat loss in early 2020. It will take decades for some of the wildlife populations to recover. Clearing and infrastructure development for mining would be disastrous for this. Taking away habitat for mining could well be the final extinction triggering event for some species.

The world is fast moving away from coal into renewable energy solutions. The NSW Government talks about reaching zero net emissions yet at the same time continues to approve more coal projects. This is hypocrisy at a base level and engenders mistrust of our government and politicians.

I strongly urge you to disallow further coal exploration, especially in this sensitive area that is struggling to rehabilitate from the fire devastation, and to consider real support for fledgling renewable initiatives in the area.

Yours faithfully

Carolyn Learoyd

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:52:42 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox<[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox<[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:52

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

shirley

Last name

lewis

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2780

Submission

It is simple: the IPCC report - our responsibility for our children's future. No further coal mines. We don't need them. They ruin the environment in so many ways. They are obsolete. Thank you.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:52:33 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:52

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Nell

Last name

Schofield

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2482

Submission

To whom it may concern,

I have been writing submissions against coal mining in this region for over 30 years and am literally aghast that this project is being considered at a time when climate action is of utmost urgency.

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has just released its latest alarming report outlining the critical need to phase out mining and burning of fossil fuels worldwide. Put together by the world's leading climate scientists, this report shows that Australia is warming faster than anywhere else on the planet and yet the NSW government is consulting with the community about whether this scenic area should be 'released' for coal mining. There are two other areas up for similar consideration statewide with six others to follow.

The IPCC's report states that to keep the Earth within the safer limit of 1.5C warming we have only 300 billion tonnes left in the global carbon budget. Globally, we are on track to burn this much in only 7 or 8 years. As the biggest exporter of coal, Australia is fast becoming a pariah nation. This project would entrench that shameful status and further risk the future of our species and all others.

My concerns and those of the broader community regarding the impact of coal mining on the climate have been overlooked over three decades as more mines have been opened up and expanded in the region. The result of this flagrant denial of climate science was the catastrophic bushfires of 2019/2020 which burned my old property to the ground. Scientists warn that bushfires like these are only going to get more intense and more frequent, even if we stop mining and burning fossil fuels now. If we continue this risky business-as-usual approach the impacts of climate change will be even more extreme.

Coal mining not only impacts the climate but also our scarce and precious water resources. The Rylstone Dam catchment is in the proposed exploration areas. The upper catchment of the Cudgegong River feeds into the water supplies of Rylstone Dam and Windamere Dam. The proposed exploration release areas threaten the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla. Water flow to Mudgee may also be negatively impacted.

Habitat for native animals and birds will be cleared to make way for the mine. Even with like-for-like offsets, there is no denying that where once were two habitats, there will only be one - and for how long that one remains viable is unpredictable with bushfire threats increasing.

I can only surmise, through proposals such as this, that the government does not "believe" in climate change but it is not a religion that one has the luxury of believing in. It is science. Religions put their faith in concepts such as The Rapture. Scientists put theirs in facts. I expect my government to respect facts, like the number of COVID-19 cases per day. The State Government is dealing with the pandemic by trusting scientific research and it should address global warming in the same way.

Please do not let me and both local and global communities down by proceeding with this most destructive project.

Yours sincerely,

Nell Schofield

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:49:33 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Damian

Last name

Buck

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Queanbeyan East

Submission

Ongoing global warming is easily sufficient to prohibit the establishment of new coal mines. Existing coal mines should be phased down to fabrication capacity only. Coal exports should be stopped, because global warming is a global, we do not escape it by exporting the emissions. Thank you for the consultation process on the Hawkins-Rumker 'coal release area'.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:38:31 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:38

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jan

Last name

Waples

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2072

Submission

To all politicians,

Did you actually read the IPPC?

NO MORE COAL EXPLORATION

NO MORE COAL

Simple!

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:33:33 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:33

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

MOUNT IRVINE

Submission

Hello, please take note that people are aware of what they loose when the decision to change the environment in which they lived for generations and what they have fought to create is taken over for quick profit of less than a generation. There are a significant number of Aboriginal heritage sites within the areas, including art and ceremonial sites, that are at risk. The Water supply is pristine and the even remote chance that it will be damaged if too great to consider mining around it. Flora and Fauna use these areas and it is a corridor to other areas, if impinged it will mean many other areas will be impacted, it will be noticed. If there is a system that we can claim compensation that would be amazing but it has not happened as far as I know. Excellent and hard won industry exists already. WE are facing anihilation from climate change already. Please leave some place for us to retreat to untouched.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:30:18 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:30

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

andrew

Last name

cook

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2441

Submission

Re the Hawkins Rumker proposal. — The State government must take the only viable course of action and stop any coal mining expansion anywhere in NSW. We're on the brink of catastrophic climate change & most Australians are prepared to play their part; no matter the cost. Thank you.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:24:29 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:24

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jim

Last name

Potts

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Emu plains

Submission

Dear minister,

I write in relation to work being done towards the feasibility of coal mining at Hawkins Rumker near Rylstone new south wales.

It beggars belief that the New South Wales government would continue looking at such a project in any shape or form following the recent ipcc report.

Climate change is now evidentially one of our most pressing issues and Australia has to play it's part not only in taking firm action to reduce emissions but to change over to more renewable safer forms of energy at all levels of society..

I ask that any action towards assessment of the area for mining or preliminary investigations they stopped immediately at the direction of the New South Wales government.

This personally impacts on me because it will impact on future generations and there for my children and grandchildren

So i strongly request- stop the PRIA and any consideration of possible release of land in that area for potential coal mining.

Issues that impact on climate change will be uppermost in my and I would think many many people's minds when it comes to future elections

Kind regards

Jim Potts

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:11:28 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Sue

Last name

Strodl

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Coffs Harbour, 2450

Submission

There are many important reasons not to open any new areas for coal exploration including impacts to fresh and ocean water systems, wildlife and the environment, all of which are already under pressure from human activity. Our primary imperative at this point in time is however to advance renewable energy industries and contribute to the reduction of global warming. As such, my objection to this proposal is that there should be no further development of or exploration for new fossil fuel sources. Instead, we must prioritise transition plans for affected communities and energy production to sustainable alternatives.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:09:36 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Brooke

Last name

Williams

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2830

Submission

Hi I am providing a submission in to protect our rock art sites, our country, our water. Yawarra ngurambangu watch over country. This is cultural significant to myself and mob and apart of our history

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:06:47 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:06

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Marie

Last name

Morris

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

[REDACTED] Mount Victoria NSW 2786

Submission

Because of climate change and the burning of coal worldwide contributes to this. I believe any new coal mines should not be allowed. As a person who has had the Gosper Mountain fire rip through my yard I am very aware of what climate change means. No New Coal Mines.

Sincerely

Marie Morris

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:05:19 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:05

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

gary

Last name

barnes

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2088

Submission

I am a retired medical practitioner. I have grandchildren and I fear for their future because of climate change. The latest UN report makes it even clearer the urgency of strong climate action needed.

I think it is absolute madness to be contemplating further coal mines or gas exploration.

Any arm of government that promotes this deserves everything that is coming to them at the polls.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 12:02:07 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 12:02

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Krista

Last name

Recsei

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

The Entrance 2261

Submission

I am strongly opposed to any coal exploration in the Hawkins and Rumker areas.

The recently released IPCC report makes it very clear that we have almost run out of time to avoid catastrophic climate change. Allowing more coal to be mined and burned will guarantee a bleak future of extreme floods, fires and droughts. Our wildlife will be devastated. Few industries will be unaffected.

Coal mining will also have a series of negative impacts for the areas around Mudgee and Ryalstone specifically. Like much of Australia, they have only just gotten out of a long and severe drought. Mining and even exploration itself risks cracking aquifers, draining and poisoning limited water supplies.

As a resident of the Central Coast I know first hand the air quality problems that are caused by coal mining. Our kids already suffer disproportionately from asthma and don't need another source of air pollution.

The loss of water mentioned above is likely to harm the many farmers who make a living in and around the Hawkins Rumker area. Others will have even more direct impact by losing their land. Mining would also have a negative impact on tourism. People don't visit the Mudgee wine region or the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Area to see huge mining operations. They come for an escape to beautiful farmland and bushland.

These losses of jobs and revenue will not be made up for by mining jobs, which will be filled by outsiders, or revenue from the mines, which will flow into national or multinational companies. Coal is a dying industry, so it isn't clear how long potential mines will even be profitable for. There is every chance that the NSW or Australian governments will have to spend taxpayer money to prop up struggling mines or to do clean up when mine operators leave the area.

There are also upwards of 45 Aboriginal Heritage sites within the area. Rio Tinto's recent destruction of the Juukan Gorge shows how dangerous mining is for these sites.

Finally, this area also contains at least twenty eight threatened flora and fauna species. With the biggest extinction rate in the world, we can't take any more risks with Australian wildlife.

This area can thrive if support is giving to the farming and tourism industries rather than mining for destructive fossil fuels.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:54:45 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:54

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Suzy

Last name

Flowers

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Running Stream 2850

Submission

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now. It will negatively impact native flora and fauna, local water resources and Aboriginal Heritage sites.

There is NO FUTURE IN COAL.

Suzy

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 16/08/2021 11:54:00 AM
 To: [REDACTED]
 Cc: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:54

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

glen oak

Submission

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW2124

[REDACTED]

NSW, 2320

16/08/2021

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration. My reasons and/or how it will impact me are outlined below.

I am 58 years of age and have been living in this area of Australia for 20 years, since coming from overseas. Partly why we came to Australia, was for a better life for our family, but also because Australia seemed to be on the forefront of innovation, sustainability, ecological advancement, etc. We are sorely ashamed to realise that as the years have gone by, Australia is lagging way behind most of the World, even the Third World country that we came from.

It really is time for Australia to take responsibility within the World stage, and STOP using, and actively mining and actively looking for more, fossil fuels.

There is more money in renewables, if that is your worry, and most importantly, without a liveable world, all the money in the world will not help our future generations.

Please wake up and take note of the Science, and the state of our World. We cannot keep the blinkers on forever. It is embarrassing to be in a 'first world' country that is so blatantly backward in it's thinking and behaving.

We need water, wildlife, and sustainable agriculture. We need accountability, transparency, action from the government.

Below continues with the main points of objection, as put much better than I can put it.

Issues with the PRIA Process

The Hawkins Rumker REF that the Government prepared is fundamentally flawed. The area does not correctly represent the Hawkins Rumker area, and it also states there are no known Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places in the area, and no threatened fauna and flora. One question how the government can assure that any future exploration licenses would include "strict environmental management conditions to protect native vegetation, fauna, land, water resources, heritage and community values", when their own exploration process couldn't get it right.

The Independent Commission Against Corruption Report, Reducing the opportunities and incentives for corruption in the state's management of coal resources 2013, included recommendations that there should be community consultation. The Department of Planning, Industry and Environment has been aware of the potential coal release areas in Hawkins and Rumker for a year, however they only issued notices for community consultation in June 2021.

Community consultations were advertised for 29 and 30 July 2021, yet the portal for online submissions opened two weeks before this on 14 June 2021. The only people in the region who were notified were landowners whose properties fell within the boundaries of the exploration zones. Apart from this, the only other notification provided were one-off advertisements in a few newspapers. This is not notifying the nearly 3000 residents in surrounding areas on Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon, Clandulla, Lue, Dabbe, Olinda and Kelgoola. Why is it that these people would not be notified of potential new coal release areas when they receive their water from the potential release areas, and the coal would be transported through these areas?

The community consultation meetings were capped at four groups of 50 people, with one of these to be held in Mudgee. How could this possibly be a real attempt to have consultation with a population of nearly 3000 people?

There is no transparency in how the Government will weight and evaluate the submissions during the PRIA process. The Government has not agreed to make the report on the PRIA outcomes publicly available prior to its submission to Cabinet. This is also contrary to the Independent Commission Against Corruption findings, which highlighted the role of public officials in providing frank and independent advice to a minister and noted that public officials continue to remain vulnerable to potential demands to change recommendations to align with a minister's wishes.

Worldwide trend to move to sustainable energy sources

The Reserve Bank of Australia anticipates international thermal coal demand to decline in the long-term as renewable electricity generation becomes more viable.

In its Strategic Statement on Coal Exploration and Mining in NSW released in June 2020, the NSW Government describes one of its four actions is supporting diversification of coal-reliant regional economies to assist with the phase-out of thermal coal mining

Australia exports 75 percent of its coal to Japan, South Korea and China. These countries have followed other countries in a worldwide trend and committed to move away from fossil fuels, which will result in decreased demand for coal.

This year, the G7 has committed to end public support for unabated coal generation by end of 2021.

The International Energy Agency Roadmap for the global energy sector states the world's coal will decline to just one fifth of current levels by 2040, and to one tenth by 2050.

Water

One of the greatest threats is to our region's precious water supplies. This area is rich in natural springs and bores. Exploration and mining can have significant impacts on the water resources of a local area. Drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers^{10, 11}. Once the water is gone, it is lost forever.

Open cut and underground coal mines have caused water contamination and have destroyed biodiversity in waterways.

The Rylstone Dam catchment is in the proposed exploration areas. The upper catchment of the Cudgegong River feeds into the water supplies of Rylstone Dam and Windamere Dam. The Hawkins Rumker proposed release areas threaten the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla; water flow to Mudgee may also be negatively impacted.

Without water, there is no life. There are no communities. There is no agriculture, no tourism, nothing to fight bushfires with.

Flora and Fauna

There are a lot of endangered flora and fauna species as well as endangered ecological communities which could be lost. NSW BioNet has recorded 293 threatened or endangered species in the Mid-Western Regional Council LGA.

Waterways would be disturbed or destroyed, and this would lead to a loss of fish habitat and threatened fish species.

The riparian meadows along Reedy Creek and Breakfast Creek¹⁶ could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Coxs Creek is thoroughly unique¹⁶ and would be under threat.

Mines would transform our beautiful area into an unsightly, industrialised one and negatively impact on the value of the amazing World Heritage area on our doorstep.

Aboriginal Heritage

There are a significant number of Aboriginal heritage sites within the areas, including art and ceremonial sites, that are at risk. We have a duty as a nation to protect these sites.

Significant sites have already been destroyed by mining and our laws are inadequate to protect these sites.

Impact on current local economy

Large areas would become coal mines. The proposed Hawkins Rumker coal release areas cover approximately 32,000 ha of land and would directly affect 180 landholders. There will be a loss of agricultural lands, farms would disappear or lose their water, and productive agricultural lands would be dug up or left fallow.

The people in the region have built long-term sustainable economic stability for this region. This revenue stays in the pockets of our local businesses. Businesses that have helped build the tourism industry in the region include vineyards, olive groves, horse studs, beef and sheep farms, eco-tourism, short stay accommodation, restaurants, cafes, antique shops, soft furnishings and knick-knacks for example. These businesses are incompatible with mining: tourists do not come to see coal mines.

Mines provide a flow of revenue to governments and their (mostly foreign) owners, however, the flow on to local businesses and local communities is generally not seen. The Hunter is the biggest coal export terminal, yet they only contribute to two percent (2%) of State Revenue; the rest goes overseas.

Mining is a specialist industry. People with the skills tend to follow the mines and very few additional local jobs are created. Like many industries, mining is becoming more automated, requiring fewer people. Over the next five years, mining is predicted to create just 0.4 percent of new jobs across all of Australia.

Just the threat of new mines being developed decimates many of the existing businesses as people stop investing or move away – even if the mine ultimately does not get approved. This has already happened in nearby Ulan, Wollar and Bylong.

The cost of living, especially housing, is often driven up to levels locals can no longer afford, as they cannot compete with the high wages miners receive.

Local towns close once the mines move on as they no longer have the income from the mines they were dependent on; and unemployment and associated issues such as crime, increase. This is the very reason strategies such as transitioning communities dependent on coal mining in NSW are required.

Social & health implications

Air, water, soil and noise pollution, do not stay within the boundaries of the coal mining sites.

The neighbouring Hunter Valley is now a pollution 'hotspot' and has some of the highest rates for respiratory and cardiac conditions in NSW.

There would be a lot more traffic, including heavy vehicles on our local and rural roads. Traffic incidents increase from mine workers travelling to and from work. The quality of our roads is already very poor and they are not suited to increased or heavy load traffic. Historically, mines in this council area have been loath to put money into fixing any traffic issues created by their presence.

Noise and vibration will dramatically increase with blasting, heavy earthmoving equipment and machinery operating in the mines 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and by coal being transported out on trains and trucks running through our towns.

Trains and trucks are not covered and the coal dust and associated pollution from transporting the coal can travel for kilometres.

Mines can be associated with increased rates of alcohol and drug abuse, violence, sexual assaults, and other crimes in adjoining communities.

Health effects are already being felt as people experience anxiety and stress about the threat to their region²⁸ and economic stability.

I wish my name to be withheld from the PRIA submission site.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]



I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:49:13 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

David

Last name

Johnson

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Bywong 2621

Submission

Dear Sir/Madam,

Please do not allow this mining exploration to go ahead in the Hawkins and Rumker area.

Any further mining of coal will lead to increased carbon emissions and reduce our ability to slow the increasing rate of damage caused by climate change. It will also wreak havoc on the environmental integrity of one of the state's natural treasures and our indigenous cultural heritage.

The idea of new mining projects is completely out of step with what NSW needs at this moment.

regards

David

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:44:45 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox; [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:44

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

John

Last name

Warburton

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Coomba park 2428

Submission

After the IPCC report you would be taking a huge risk by approving any further coal or gas exploration or mining. The legal implications will be immense and I, with many others will donate to prosecute you. You know all the arguments regarding why this should not go ahead. Be sensible.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:43:20 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Dr Helen

Last name

Stevens

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Caves Beach 2281

Submission

I am an ornithologist who lives in Caves Beach and has a large property near Coonabarabran. Therefore I understand what happens in country areas.

I am most concerned that the Hawkins Rumker area would become a coal mine. When we are on the verge of catastrophic climate change (see the latest IPCC report), to consider any new coal mines is madness. They also have a high risk of becoming a stranded asset. This means that the considerable damage done to water (creeks, rivers, water table, bores), flora and fauna (the area contains many endangered species, eg. of birds), agricultural production (large areas of farmland would become an industrial waste land) would all have been in vain.

In the Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment (PRIA), I strongly urge you to reject the proposal and ensure it does not go on to the next stage. It would be one more nail in the coffin of our climate, our environment, our agricultural production and our health, and must be rejected outright.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:40:44 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jan

Last name

Alerton

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Huntleys Cove 2111

Submission

After the latest international report on the climate emergency, it is a criminal act to approve any further fossil fuel mining.

There are many reasons, cultural, species protection, water protection, landscape protection, the economy, and the health of our populations, to ban fossil fuels.

The only 'approval' that can be made for this area is to declare it a national environmental promotion site, and demonstrate the jobs that can arise from ecotourism and any possible benign green industries.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:40:40 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Simon

Last name

Phibbs

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Belrose NSW 2085

Submission

With climate change and the contribution from fossil fuels there for all to see in the latest IPCC report, the NSW government is truly insane to be even considering a project of this nature. Please ensure it does not proceed.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:40:15 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Suffolk park

Submission

I am against the coal mine or any exploration of coal in this area. Simple as that. Global warming is happy and fossil fuels are dead

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:35:33 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:35

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Franco

Last name

Corabi

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Blackheath 2785

Submission

To NSW Government,

This proposal is irresponsible, unethical, and tone deaf given the climate emergency we face at this moment.

Invest in clean energy now!

Franco Corabi

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:30:34 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:30

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2099

Submission

I oppose the release of Hawkins and Rumker areas for coal exploration as it is not compatible with IPCC report's factual reporting that new coal, oil and gas explorations will worsen the impending climate change disaster. I ask you to abolish these plans and invest in renewable energy instead.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 11:02:23 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 11:02

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Blackheath 2785

Submission

Please reconsider and decide against new coal exploration in the Hawkins Rumker region, for the following reasons:

It is imperative that the catchment of the beautiful Goulburn River be kept environmentally intact

Likewise for the Cudgegong River and the catchments of the Cudgegong and Murray Darling Basin

Aboriginal heritage (Wiradjuri) sites are present and the potential for coal mining puts these under threat with negative social and spiritual ramifications for Aboriginal individuals and communities.

The area is habitat for flora and fauna including the endangered Regent Honeyeater and Spotted-tailed quoll which need large intact environments with old growth present.

National Parks such as the Greater Blue Mountains NP and the Goulburn River NP are placed potentially under impact by exploration and subsequent coal mining activities. Such a vast amount of National Park area was destroyed by the 2019-20 bushfires it is short sighted to put further native vegetation and fauna under threat.

Given the above concerns there is no point in engaging in new coal exploration in this area.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:55:58 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:55

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Naomi

Last name

Woodpower

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2780

Submission

To whom it may concern,

This is the wrong place and the wrong time for new coal exploration. I have put below some key points why this coal mine must not go ahead.

These lands are rich in Wiradjuri heritage. Publicly available data reveal 26 separately recorded sites including rock shelters with painted or engraved art, camp sites and grinding grooves.

The area contains high value waterways, covering over 63km of creeks in good or moderate stream condition, which are fragile to disturbance. To the north east, the Rumker release area runs along 33km of the border of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Concern has already been raised at the World Heritage Centre and IUCN about the potential impacts of eight mining operations on the boundaries of the site.

There are several records of Koalas in the Hawkins area. A scientific study undertaken by BioLink found that 71% of Koala populations had been lost in six fire-affected areas in northern NSW after the catastrophic 2019/2020 bushfires.

The NSW government must consider these points, as well as the many many more reasons for turning away from coal and towards a future which priorities the environment and local communities and renewable energy.

Regards,

Naomi

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:51:00 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:51

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Lynette

Last name

Sindair

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Woodford 2778

Submission

I am against this proposal for mining in this area. At a time when the IPCC has just released their 'Code Red' report, we have to prevent new fossil fuel projects from even starting. This area is a beautiful bio-diverse region that is loved by many and valued by our Indigenous peoples. It is outrageous that it is even being considered for the destruction that mining will cause.

These lands are rich in Wiradjuri heritage. Publicly available data reveal 26 separately recorded sites including rock shelters with painted or engraved art, camp sites and grinding grooves.

The area is part of a very intact landscape with almost two-thirds of it covered in native vegetation and more than 10% known or potential threatened ecological communities.

The area contains high value waterways, covering over 63km of creeks in good or moderate stream condition, which are fragile to disturbance.

It includes headwater streams of the Cudgegong River in good condition, which is part of the Macquarie River catchment in the Murray Darling, and the upper catchments of the Goulburn River, which flows into the Hunter and thence to the coast.

To the north east, the Rumker release area runs along 33km of the border of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Concern has already been raised at the World Heritage Centre and IUCN about the potential impacts of eight mining operations on the boundaries of the site.

There are several records of Koalas in the Hawkins area. A scientific study undertaken by BioLink found that 71% of Koala populations had been lost in six fire-affected areas in northern NSW after the catastrophic 2019/2020 bushfires.

Other important species recorded in Hawkins-Rumker include the critically endangered Regent honeyeater and the nationally-endangered Spotted-tailed quoll, which is reliant on large, intact habitats with old growth elements to survive.

Please stop this insane proposal.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:44:20 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:44

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

Name

First name

Rosemary

Last name

Stapleton

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

ORANGE, 2800

Submission

Please find attached a submission from Orange Field Naturalist and Conservation Society opposing the opening of any new areas for coal exploration or any new mining in the Hawkins Rumker region of NSW.

Regards

Rosemary Stapleton

OFNCS Secretary

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:32:06 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:32

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

David

Last name

Christie

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Hazelbrook

Submission

I wish to submit that the release of the two areas Hawkins and Rumker for Coal and Petroleum Exploration as defined by the Information Paper of May 2021 should not proceed.

The proposal to explore for coal and petroleum resources at this time is against all advice regarding the need to reduce our use of fossil fuels. We should not be looking to start any more coal mining anymore due to the impact of greenhouse emissions on global warming.

The information provided mentions the possibility of underground mining methods. The result of underground mining is ground subsidence of up to 1m (and more) depending on the extraction method. Large longwalls will produce the maximum subsidence while Mini Walls (as at Cardiff, NSW) will limit the subsidence. Mining induced ground subsidence has been responsible for totally drying up permanent waterflows in significant creeks and causing much surface cracking of rocks in the creek beds in the coal fields in the Southern Highlands, (Tahmoor). This impact is possibly permanent. There are a number of high value waterways such as creeks and rivers in the area considered which would be severely impacted by subsidence caused by underground mining.

Underground mining will also require significant surface works such as coal stockpiles, coal washeries, storage of contaminated wash water and significant building and road works. This will produce dust and permanent damage to the surrounding ecosystems.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:25:06 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:25

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

JOhn

Last name

Brown

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Kiama 2533

Submission

To whom it may concern

Objections to coal mining in the Hawkins Rumker area.

Dear Sir/ Madam,

I realise overwhelming objections to the coal mining in the area mentioned have passed your desk. I too object to the mining. The issues of environmental conservation, outdated energy issues, cultural damage and vision for the future are alive and real. I too am serious about these implications. But allow me to again remind you of what you already know. Hopefully this short poem will help you look and stop the idea with renewed enthusiasm.

Abad investment

When I won lotto what did I do

I counted my few blessings for what I needed new

but there was nothing on my list hidden in the bucket

so I invested in a coal mine rather than blindly chuck it

the Hawkins Rumker area beneath its pasture green
 gladly gobbled up my doe and dug round the scene
 the pristine country side starting changing form
 twas no little tea cup, it turned into a storm

Still I continued my retreats at Hidden Valley ranch
 where beside my favourite gum I watched nature dance
 but something had changed tune, nature's smile had gone
 the laughter of the meadows began to mourn

So I bought another lottery ticket and was prepared to pay
 for the investors of the dig to take the mine away
 but the need to warm the planet was a fashion of the past
 lucky we woke up before the initial blast

John Brown

Frequenter of Hidden Valley Ranch over two decades.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:22:35 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:22

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Glenn

Last name

Humphreys

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Katoomba 2780

Submission

Director Energy and Resource Policy,
 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
 Locked Bag 502
 Parramatta NSW 2124

Glenn Humphreys

Katoomba 2780

16/8/21

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration. My reasons and/or how it will impact me are outlined below.

I am 71 years of age and have been visiting this area for over 30 years. I have been bushwalking, fishing, camping and swimming in this area over this period.

I am fully opposed to all coal mining within this world heritage area. This risks of environmental degradation are all to real. It will result in a "death by a thousand cuts" to this very beautiful area.

The Cudgegong river is already in a poor state and the real risk of further destruction of the this river system along with the associated tributaries and springs is too real to be ignored.

There can be no excuse to risk this water supply (both for environmental and human needs) along with potential destruction of our tourist industry.

I am dismayed that any consideration should be given to the destructive practice of coal mining in this area given the array of environmental damage done by coal mining in other areas of NSW.

Yours sincerely,
 Glenn Humphreys

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 10:21:42 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 10:21

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Brett

Last name

Bond

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2785

Submission

Indigenous
Environmental
Wildlife
Conservation
Climate

Just how many groups are you hoping to incite with this ridiculous proposal?

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 9:59:42 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 09:59

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Nicole

Last name

Reilly

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

CAMP HILL

Submission

As a ngurrigilang Wiradyuri yinaa (proud Wiradjuri woman), it is my cultural responsibility to speak up for our Country. To protect Country. If these sites are opened up to coal exploration, we risk damage to irreplaceable rock art sites (hello BHP hr nightmare), sacred cultural sites, our water, our plants and animals that coexist in balance on ngurambang (Country). If you destroy these sites for coal exploration, generations of Wiradjuri that are only just now able to start the process of Remembering language and culture (like myself, thanks to the incredible team at Charles Sturt University, able to finally share it back to the rest of my family that had it stolen) will miss out on having the chance to go to these sites and learn from our Elders. You've taken enough. We all know how little coal money goes back into community, how little goes back into finding greener energy solutions. We should be moving away from coal anyway, especially after the latest climate findings released last week. If you'd like to talk in person, please contact me via my email of [REDACTED]. I'd more than happily fight for this in-person/publicly.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 9:28:10 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 09:28

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Eleanor

Last name

Barrett

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Lawson 2783

Submission

Please reconsider coal exploration in Hawkins and Rumker. Forty-five Aboriginal heritage sites and 28 threatened species have been identified in these areas that have been proposed for coal exploration and it would be very damaging.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 9:10:52 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 09:10

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Amanda

Last name

Nelson

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2780

Submission

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:52:31 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:52

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Thomas

Last name

Lodewyke

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Wentworth Falls NSW 2782

Submission

Dear Members of the Department of Planning, Industry and Environment,

The purpose of this submission is to convince you that the proposed release of land in the Hawkins and Rumker regions for coal exploration (and subsequent mining) would have disastrous consequences.

The suggestion that new coal exploration should be undertaken ANYWHERE is extremely irresponsible given the incontrovertible scientific evidence that the burning of fossil fuels accelerates the rate of climate change. It flies in the face of the federal government's stated goal of reaching net zero CO2 emissions.

A government that would even consider allowing new coal exploration clearly cares more about profit than the safety of the people and land that should be it foremost concerns.

There are also specific characteristics of the Hawkins-Rumker area that make this land, in its current state, very valuable to a range of stakeholders.

The heritage of the Wiradjuri traditional custodians includes 26 significant sites within the proposed coal exploration area: ancient rock art, camp sites and evidence of millennia of continued occupation.

The area contains over 63km of creeks, including healthy headwaters of the Cudgegong River. These waterways are also part of the Macquarie River and Goulburn River catchments, carrying water as far as the Murray-Darling and Hunter. These creeks are vulnerable to significant disturbances such as mining activity, which would significantly impact water availability for surrounding farming communities and the many other communities that rely on these water catchments.

With climate change causing increasingly severe droughts, water is more precious than ever. To threaten water supply is to threaten the people of NSW.

The proposed area also provides essential habitat for threatened and endangered native species, including the koala, Spotted-Tail Quoll and Regent Honeyeater. The Rumker area borders 33km of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area, a fragile and ancient ecosystem of international significance. The natural beauty of this area brings millions of dollars of tourism revenue to NSW every year, supporting many more (long-term) jobs than would be created by a coal mine.

Mining activity would inevitably destroy irreplaceable Indigenous sites, precious waterways and fragile native ecosystems. These qualities are worth much more to the people of NSW than the profits of yet another coal mine.

We should be moving towards 100% renewable energy. The creation of a new coal mine is unconscionable given what we know about climate change.

Think about the kind of world you want to leave for your children and grandchildren. The more fossil fuels we burn, the harder their lives will be.

Thank you for reading my submission.

Sincerely,

Thomas Lodewyke

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:47:13 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:47

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2785

Submission

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:43:56 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

3058

Submission

I would like to make my submission of opposing this move to release new areas of East of Mudgee for coal exploration.

1. The warnings in the IPCC report recently released could not be more stark. As the International Energy Agency's path to 1.5 degrees report found, no new coal, oil or gas developments are compatible with a safe future for our children. Recent findings that current and abandoned coal mines are emitting vast quantities of the potent greenhouse gas methane simply underscore the importance of leaving coal in the ground.
2. Given moves this year by NSW's main coal export markets (Japan, China and South Korea) to reduce their emissions, including specific statements regarding the contraction of their coal use, expanding coal in NSW is economically irrational and irresponsible. Taxpayers and local communities will bear the brunt of clean up costs from mines that are started but become stranded. (Assuming the mining companies can get finance and insurance in the first place). These projects will not create sustainable jobs as is claimed.
3. Local communities will also suffer in terms of environmental degradation, risks to water supplies, and health impacts from coal dust and other pollution.

I urge you to take into account these views and the potential impacts on the local communities, state, country, and indeed the world because of this proposal.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:43:36 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Rylstone/ Clinda 2849

Submission

I'm opposed to the exploration of coal in the Hawkins, Rumker and Ganguddy/Kelgoola areas in NSW.

There are fragile water systems that land owners have relied upon for over a hundred years. The springs that provide water in droughts could be damaged and contaminated and the water table damaged beyond repair.

There are indigenous Australian sites (Growe Gulph) that have been used for educational purposes about local history as well as fragile ecosystems such as fern tree gully. The local Schools have been visiting these local sites for years.

The attached file shows a spotted quoll, this was taken after the fires and is not the only one that visits. There are many other vulnerable species in these areas, but the quoll and the koala are the most threatened.

There are also vulnerable flora species in the area as well as you will find from the info from the local rylstone region coal free community group.

Thankyou

[REDACTED]

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:40:33 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Charlotte

Last name

Simpson-Young

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2038

Submission

This region holds incredible significance to me, my family and many of my friends. Any environmental degradation would be devastating to us. I realise it's sentimental, but our connection to land - to this land - underpins the best parts of society. Our happiness, our empathy for other living things, our creativity.

There are a multitude of environmental and economic reasons to consider. I'm a ecologist and understand the importance of the natural capital of this region. But I'll let others speak to that. I'll just say that decision makers must respect the cultural value of the region, otherwise the community will lose respect for the decision makers.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:35:47 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:35

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Lisa

Last name

Redwood

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2232

Submission

Please don't disturb this beautiful spot. It's one of the best camping spots in Australia. We don't need coal, we can use solar wind and other renewable energy sources. Think of future generations.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:26:25 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:26

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Stuart

Last name

Christie

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2785

Submission

I object to to the proposal as I feel it will affect the local environment badly and cause damage to the natural beauty of places such as gunduddy

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:16:25 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:16

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

saskia

Last name

everingham

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

katoomba

Submission

I object to this project going forward. it will impact on the areas' use by the community, as well as being short sighted given the inevitable decrease in the demand for coal.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:13:25 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:13

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Ben

Last name

Connor

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2780

Submission

This is beautiful country. In proximity to Ganguddy-Dunn's Swamp, arguably the most beautiful camp site in New South Wales - on par with Green Patch at Jervis Bay. A place my six year old daughter loves to visit and would no doubt like to take her children one day. The NSW government needs to put preserving our beautiful natural environment before short term economic gain. Please don't allow this and instead encourage/stimulate/generate sustainable technology developments in NSW.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 8:11:29 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 08:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Imelda

Last name

Eames

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Katoomba

Submission

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 7:46:21 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 07:46

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Patrick

Last name

Connor

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Katoomba

Submission

I am opposed the the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration. We need to limit our use of fossil fuels to combat climate change, not expand their use.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 7:10:08 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 07:10

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Sophie

Last name

Williams

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2758

Submission

There is no way a coal mine should be considered for this area of world heritage national park. This coal mine would also be contributing to climate change which in the recent IPCC report was concluded to be caused by human activity such as this. Making the construction of this a step backwards and a disregard of the facts produced by science. When will people start trusting science, it's helping us through a pandemic and it will help us through the climate catastrophe.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 16/08/2021 2:26:26 AM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Mon, 16/08/2021 - 02:26

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Colleen

Last name

Fliegner

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2782

Submission

This important site for Aboriginal communities and cultural significance must be protected. It is also important habitat for endangered species. Coal mining is destructive and outdated, please listen to your community and protect what we have left.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 11:12:05 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 23:12

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

Name

First name

Bettina

Last name

leGras

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Leura 2780

Submission

I have concerns for the effects of the proposed coal mine near Rylstone on the fragile ecology of the area. The water catchments and the fauna in this region will be damaged, possibly beyond repair if the proposed coal mine is allowed to proceed.

WATERWAYS

The Hawkins Rumker area near Rylstone is part of a very intact landscape. Almost two-thirds of it is covered in native vegetation and more than 10% consists of known or potentially threatened ecological communities.

The Hawkins Rumker area near Rylstone contains high value waterways, covering over 63km of creeks in good or moderate stream condition, which are fragile to disturbance.

It includes headwater streams of the Cudgegong River in good condition, which is part of the Macquarie River catchment in the Murray Darling, and the upper catchments of the Goulburn River, which flows into the Hunter and then to the coast.

To the north east, the Rumker release area runs along 33km of the border of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Concern has already been raised at the World Heritage Centre and IUCN (International Union for Conservation of Nature) about the potential impacts of eight mining operations on the boundaries of the site.

FAUNA

There are several records of Koalas in the Hawkins area. Their numbers have already been severely impacted by fires, therefore it is extremely important that their habitat be protected in this area.

Other important species recorded in Hawkins-Rumker include the critically endangered Regent honeyeater and the nationally-endangered Spotted-tailed quoll, which is reliant on large, intact habitats with old growth elements to survive.

Thank you for considering this submission.

Bettina leGras
 Resilient Blue Mountains

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 10:33:58 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 22:33

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Katoomba

Submission

I object to this mining proposal.

I love the area in which the mine is proposed as I have camped there on several occasions and feel this would destroy this beautiful fragile area.

Thank you for considering rejecting this destructive mining proposal.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 9:46:52 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox; [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 21:46

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jeb

Last name

Bush

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Baulkham Hills 2153

Submission

We need to urgently transition away from coal. And our national parks don't need coal mines on their doorstep. Ecocide is wrong. Don't contribute to ecocide just for the sake of a few quick bucks. Instead of investing in new coal mines, invest in training for workers in the coal industry who will be affected by the coming transition. Why is this so difficult to wrap your heads around?

Loving awareness to all beings,

Governor Jeb Bush

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 9:26:44 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 21:26

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Helen

Last name

McCarthy

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2758

Submission

This proposal should not go ahead by any means.

The latest IPCC report has shown that in order to stay below 1.5 degrees, governments all over the world need to act urgently to address the climate crisis.

The fact that the NSW government is even considering releasing land for coal exploration shows that you value the desires of large companies over science, indigenous peoples and the welfare of our planet.

If coal mining occurs on this land, native flora and fauna will be at risk, indigenous sites will be ruined and will overall destroy the local ecosystem.

I ask the NSW government to reject this proposal and to actually work towards a net 0 future.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 9:09:12 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 21:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jason

Last name

O'Neil

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Bathurst 2795

Submission

I am writing to object to the release of land for coal exploration in the Hawkins Rumker areas. As a young Wiradjuri man, I am very concerned about the potential environmental and social impacts of any future coal project in this area.

The exploration works will be destructive to local water sources, disrupt the ecosystem of native flora and fauna, and be destructive to Wiradjuri cultural heritage including Wiradjuri rock art sites.

It is also entirely irresponsible to be considering future fossil fuel extraction given the worsening climate crisis. The CO2 emissions from the exploration and any future coal extraction will contribute directly to extreme weather events in the area, including bushfires, droughts, and flooding.

It makes no long-term sense to allow coal exploration in this area. It will hurt locals. It will damage Wiradjuri cultural heritage, and Wiradjuri Country. And it is irresponsible in light of the climate crisis.

I do not want to be paying the price for coal extraction in this area over the remaining decades of my life. I wholeheartedly condemn this proposal.

Jason O'Neil

Lawyer, PhD Candidate

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 8:58:10 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 20:58

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Jeannette

Last name

Kavanagh

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Broadwater 2549

Submission

Australia does not need to destroy eco friendly businesses. That is especially the case to create more carbon pollution from coal. Scott Morrison is a disgrace on the world stage where even Tories like Boris Johnson are committed to zero emissions by 2050 - or before. When we destroy this planet, we can't trade it in on a new one.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 8:57:11 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 20:57

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Noni

Last name

McDevitt

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Leura 2780

Submission

What is the government thinking. Surely you know it is total madness and utterly irresponsible to permit any more coal or gas exploration. You need to be seeking legislation to shut down all coal and gas extraction statewide.

The future is in your hands. Increasing fossil fuel production is going to catapult us into the next phase of this horrific global warming.

Please think of the future of your and our kids.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 8:32:17 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 20:32

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2112

Submission

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW 2124

[REDACTED]

Putney NSW 2112

15th August 2021,

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

Hi this is to let you know that I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration as it will have an extremely detrimental impact on the local area. I visit the area of Rylstone, Kandos and Mudge area regularly as I love the environment it is set in, including the wildlife. The dams in the area are also very special as is the biodiversity of the area which I have enjoyed participating with my family over the years.

Over the years it has been very obvious that strict environmental management conditions are never fully enforceable by miners as there are always mistakes and breaches that affect the environment in an irreversible way and the impact cannot be reversed. The impact on the water air and biodiversity will not be able to be undone once pollution takes hold or will take a long time to reverse the impact of breaches and mistakes that impact the environment.

The IPCC report that has just been released portends a disastrous future if we continue to use fossil fuels the way we have been doing over the past century. The impact of this will be felt for generations to come. I am very concerned about the health (environmental degradation impacts on health as do the pollutants from mines), safety (of the birds, native animals and plants as well as the water and air) and frankly the survival of the human race if we continue to consume our natural resources and destroy the environment the way we have without any foresight of the impact on the future.

I do feel that we don't yet don't fully understand the impact of global warming on the planet at present all I know is that the Australian wilderness is worth fighting for as it is our home and we need to listen to the evidence staring us in the face and not ignore it as the impact will be disastrous and will take a very long time to undo.

I have never before felt the need to be actively involved in submissions for government projects, however I now feel that it is a moral imperative for me to have a say in what is a very real threat to the pristine environment that is being put up for mining as well as the impact on our Carbon footprint. It is beyond other priorities that seem important at present like jobs and finances and must be placed in a global context for the greater good of the planet which is our only home.

I feel privileged to be able to make this submission against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration.

Yours Sincerely

[REDACTED]

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 7:51:38 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 19:51

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Olinda 2849

Submission

As a local landholder, I am writing to express my absolute opposition to the proposed coal exploration in the Hawkins and Rumker areas.

This area is incredibly special. Nobody who lives or spends time in these stunning natural surrounds leaves untouched by their experiences. Mention the Rylstone region, and if people have been here, their eyes will sparkle and they'll smile in memory. Happens almost every time.

They respond like that because they've enjoyed the warmth of the town or have spent time in the bush. This is not a coal reliant community. This is a community with thriving tourism, productive agricultural lands and stunning flora and fauna.

Our retreat centre attracts local and global visitors. The rich wildlife, extraordinary pagoda rock formations and deep silence keep them coming back. All these are in danger with the introduction of the destruction and pollution brought by coal mining. Therefore, so is our business. We have put so much time and money and sweat and care into these buildings, many of which were built by hand. These elements cannot be merely quantified in dollars. Why is the prospect of short term coal dollars more important than what people here have built over generations? For future generations. Coal is not for future generations. Except perhaps as a toxic legacy, the effects of which they left to overcome.

In a rural area like ours, it is difficult to predict how sound travels. After the fires, we heard so much more road noise, from kilometres away, as the tree cover was gone and the sound echoed off the exposed rocks. So heavy machinery and blasting and constant noise will no doubt find its intrusive way onto our property at the edge of Rumker. The silence is part of the appeal of our business. It is not something that can be fixed with double glazing. We are rural. We need to be outside, not cowering from the impact of coal mining. Nobody will come to our property if this is the case. All the local business services we use employ will be left with nothing. Jobs will be lost, not gained if mining is introduced.

On our property I have happily watched spotted quolls (endangered) cavorting with each other and even taunting a 2m long goanna. (the goanna won) We've seen less since the fires. They no doubt sought shelter in the unburnt areas of Hawkins and Rumker. Where will they then go if more of their habitat is destroyed for more unnecessary coal?

The birdsong here is a constant delight, the visitors to our retreat centre are constantly amazed by the variety and richness of calls. Just as when learning the stars, the extraordinary night sky becomes a navigable back yard (easy when there is no light pollution from 24/7 mining destroying the darkness), recognising the different bird calls opens your ears to the variety within each species of bird, as well as discovering those new to your ears. Some species are vulnerable and some endangered. I invite you to come and follow the song of the lyrebirds... if you're lucky, stealthy and quiet, you may even get to see one dancing. It's magic.

The Gang-gang cockatoos (now endangered) mate for life, so we often see a pair, sometimes with new offspring. If you don't hear their squawks you can find them by being quiet enough and follow them munching seed pods in the trees. The noise and destruction of mining will further threaten their existence. Please value these examples of precious biodiversity. Once gone they cannot be retrieved. Biodiversity offsets will not bring them back.

It's not just the fauna that is at risk, the swamps and bogs along Coxs Creek are the same variety as those that put a halt to the Angus Place mine extension. They are endangered. We are on the edge of the Wollom National Park, part of the greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. The cumulative effects of mining need to be considered. Right now, not in a future EIS. There is still so much undocumented flora and fauna in this area. Desktop studies will not reveal all that can be found. And if it is not known now, it will be missed and destroyed.

The issues we have mentioned in this submission are only some of the massive constraints in going ahead with this ill conceived proposal. The impact on water and its necessity for the long term resilience of the region we have spoken of in another submission. The global impacts of the green house gases that would result from these areas being released is unforgivable. Collectively, these are insurmountable constraints. This must be stopped here and now.

There is no rational case for destroying the sustainability of this area, community and its future.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 7:13:27 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 19:13

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Letetia

Last name

Harris

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2651

Submission

There are over 20 recognised sites that are in the proposed area. Theses are our sacred spiritual and cultural places that belong to Wiradjuri. Mining this place will not just interfere with our the physical site destroying it's base and polluting its waters, but also interrupt the spiritual space and energy they posses. This country belongs and is sacred to all Wiradjuri. When taking any action on our country you are affecting our people. This country we were driven from to make profit. It is our mother our flesh and blood. It connects us all as Wiradjuri and has sites that can not be replicated anywhere else on our country.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
 Sent: 15/08/2021 7:01:10 PM
 To: [REDACTED]
 Cc: [REDACTED]
 Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 19:01

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Rylstone 2849

Submission

I am completely opposed to the release of mining exploration leases. It is unfathomable that the State Government would even contemplate opening up new areas for coal mining.

* The complete lack of consultation - I only found out through letterbox drops from action groups not the government

* The federal government's own "Intergenerational Report" pg 57 says that the "natural environment is central to the quality of life enjoyed by Australians and to the state of the economy". Destroying this amazing landscape will do nothing for 'quality of life' for any lifeform.

* "Climate change presents a significant challenge to the environment ..", also from the "Intergenerational Report". There is absolutely no doubt that human activity is causing climate change. Yet our state government is happy to plan for new coal mines!!

* The REF published in 2015 is completely inadequate. It states on page 6 that stakeholders were consulted. Where's the evidence of that? On page 18 it states "there is no BOM weather station located within the project area" - wrong. There is one on Nullo Mountain. Page 23 "No direct interaction will occur with fauna"!!!! How can anyone possibly conclude that exploratory drilling will not effect the wildlife? They may not plan to directly into a Barking Owl or gang-gang cockatoo, but they will most certainly be effected. But it's OK because on page 30 the REF says that "drilling operations will be located more than 200m from a listed flora and fauna species location". Just make sure those cockatoos stay still once the 200m is marked out. Page 27 - "no known Aboriginal objects within the project area... no declared Aboriginal places within the project area" - has anyone actually spoken to our Dabee people? There are significant cultural sites scattered throughout the area.

Not to mention that the whole REF process was completed well before our recent bushfires, which decimated so much of the area. And the stress on the human population from the fires must be considered. Much of the proposed area for exploration includes landholders who are suffering after the fires.

* The common assumption is that mining approval "will never happen" as the demand world-wide is decreasing, governments around the world (intelligent ones) are winding back fossil fuel industries and we have many mines already operational. However, I don't want to take that chance.

* I need this ridiculous proposal shelved.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 6:56:36 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 18:56

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

North Wollongong 2500

Submission

The Hawkins and Rumker areas should not be opened for coal exploration.

Despite the State government's policy, the opening of new coal mines for electricity generation does not in any way align with a target of net-zero emissions by 2050. Neither is it remotely consistent with the recommendations of the most recent (2021) IPCC report on Climate Change, which advises that keeping global temperature rise under 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial averages requires no new coal or gas mines to be opened anywhere.

Approval of exploration would be devastating to the environment, and the potential economic benefits would be far outweighed by the environmental and social impacts. Under the Intergovernmental Agreement on the Environment (1992), of which both the Federal and NSW governments are signatories to, land-use approvals must use the principles of ecologically sustainable development in their assessments. This includes the preservation of the health and diversity of the environment for use by future generations. The opening of new coal mines amounts to a wholesale disregard for this principle and for future generations in general.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 6:49:49 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 18:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Trent

Last name

Critchley

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Orange 2800

Submission

I am a science teacher in Orange and take high school Duke of Edinburgh's Award students to Wollemi National Park every year, as well as undertaking personal hikes in the park. I am opposed to the Hawkins and Rumker areas being opened for coal exploration. This is a precursor to coal mining and needs to be stopped now.

Reasons for my opposition include the following:

- Even exploratory drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers. The supply of water in creeks and rivers decreases. Water sources for hiking in Wollemi are important...but so are water supplies to towns in the area that may rely on water in the Rylestone or Windemere Dams that could be affected by changed water flow in the Cudgegong River. The region has just come out of one of the worst droughts in living memory and adding a high-water-use operation like a coal mine would be irresponsible for water security.

- There are a lot of endangered flora and fauna species as well as endangered ecological communities which could be lost. NSW BioNet has recorded 293 threatened or endangered species in the Mid-Western Regional Council LGA.

- The riparian meadows along Reedy Creek and Breakfast Creek could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Cox's Creek is thoroughly unique and would be under threat. Breakfast Creek is my personal favourite hiking area, and is very popular with bushwalkers.

- There are a significant number of Aboriginal heritage sites within the areas, including art and ceremonial sites, that are at risk. Many of these are not yet officially documented. The existing Hawkins Rumker Review of Environmental Factors incorrectly states there are no known Aboriginal objects or declared Aboriginal places in the area. This is despite the documented official records as well as local knowledge pointing to many more sites.

- Air, water, soil and noise pollution, do not stay within the boundaries of the coal mining sites. Underground mines must bring the coal to the surface. Air quality would be reduced due to coal dust from blasting, mining and transporting coal.

- The people in the region have built long-term sustainable economic stability for this region. This revenue stays in the pockets of our local businesses. Businesses that have helped build the tourism industry in the region include vineyards, olive groves, horse studs, beef and sheep farms, eco-tourism, short stay accommodation, restaurants, cafes, antique shops, soft furnishings and knick-knacks for example. These businesses are incompatible with mining: tourists do not come to see coal mines

- The world, and indeed this NSW government is moving away from coal for many good reasons. So it makes no sense whatsoever to even begin looking at setting up a new mine. Resources should be focused on setting up renewable sources of power instead. In fact, the G7 agreed to end government support for new coal power by the end of 2021.

There are many other good reasons NOT to allow new coal exploration in this area. I'm sure you're reading more of them from other concerned citizens like myself. I strongly urge you not to go ahead with the exploration. There is no point in even contemplating going ahead with such a stupid idea as a new coal mine. Spend our taxpayer dollars investing in the future: renewable energy.

Thank you for your careful consideration of my submission.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 5:46:28 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 17:46

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2779

Submission

I am writing to express my opposition to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened up for coal exploration.

As a Blue Mountains resident I often visit this very spectacular for its natural beauty and bio diversity.

The thought that this area may be turned into a coal mining area absolutely breaks my heart, this is an important touristic area which I have visited many times with family, friends and overseas visitors. With no exceptions, people are always amazed at the serenity of the area.

Coal mining will negatively impact local tourism, local communities and natural habitats.

Animals will be displaced, nature destroyed, waterways will be at risk which will affect all fauna and flora around it. Many waterways and swamps cover this area which will be affected by the mine(s).

With the latest IPCC report we must all act now before it is too late and we get to a runaway climate disaster.

The government has a duty of care to look after this generation and future generations.

We need to move with the times and this leads to facing out of the fossil fuel industry. No more new coal mines.

[REDACTED]

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 5:33:02 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 17:33

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Nathalie

Last name

Verellen

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2779

Submission

To whom it may concern,

I am deeply OPPOSED to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened up for coal exploration.

I am a resident of Hazelbrook, Blue Mountains and we regularly visit the Rylstone/Kandos area for camping and the peaceful beautiful surroundings. One of our favourite spots is Dunns Swamp, we camp there regularly, sometimes a couple of times a year to enjoy the beauty and wildlife that Dunns Swamp offers. We bring our kayaks and I always go on the water very early when the sun comes up to see all the wildlife, there are so many different types of birds, lyrebirds too, lizards, turtles, wallabies, snakes to name some we see regularly. In winter the mist lifts off the water and this is the most magical place you can possibly kayak on so close to the Blue Mountains. It is truly a spectacular and peaceful area.

I hear that the Hawkins and Rumker, as well as the Ganguddy-Kelgoola areas have been identified as potential future coal release areas.

This area is very important for tourism, the beauty of the surrounding hills is a very big attraction for visitors, it is on the way to Mudgee, where lots of people visit for the town and the wineries and visit on the way up.

Opening new coal mines in this area will have a detrimental effect on tourism, which will affect the livelihoods of people living in the area, the cafes, hotels, accommodation places. Positive flow on effect to the local communities are seldom seen, the community gets all the negative effects from mining. Communities get divided, people are often forced or have no choice to move away, some people have lived in this area their entire lives. And for what, a profit for a mining company at the expense of everything else.

Local communities suffer from the pollution of the dust and noise from the mine, natural habitats are destroyed and wildlife displaced or killed in the process. There are 293 endangered species (fauna and flora) in the Mid Western regional Council. Surely that counts for something? I am so sad to hear this area may turn into a mining area, it is a place I love so much.

As the IPCC has just released its latest report, giving a stark warning we must reduce GHG as soon as possible if we are to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees and even AEMO states we cannot afford to open any new coal mines if we want to avoid climate breakdown.

Science is very clear, we must reduce greenhouse gas and transition quickly to renewable energy, not open up new coal mines. It puts our lives in danger and steers us into an uncertain and dangerous future.

The area has many creeks, waterways, rivers and swamps on which animals and plants rely. Water is life, we cannot risk water by mining, no matter how many so-called environmental assessments a company makes, there is no guarantee that water can be protected. This has been proven time after time. Once it is destroyed, it is too late.

I am hoping that sense will prevail over greed and that this area will be protected for generations to come.

Nathalie Verellen

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 5:17:35 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 17:17

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Megan

Last name

Wynne-Jones

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Mullumbimby 2482

Submission

I am writing to oppose the coal mining proposal. To even think about opening more coal mines is insanity. It is common scientifically proven knowledge that we need to decrease our use of fossil fuel. We have a duty to make a transition to renewable energy as quickly as possible.

Moreover I object to this proposal because these lands are rich in Wiradjuri heritage. Publicly available data reveal 26 separately recorded sites including rock shelters with painted or engraved art, camp sites and grinding grooves.

In addition the area is part of a very intact landscape with almost two-thirds of it covered in native vegetation and more than 10% known or potential threatened ecological communities.

The area contains high value waterways, covering over 63km of creeks in good or moderate stream condition, which are fragile to disturbance. It includes headwater streams of the Cudgegong River in good condition, which is part of the Macquarie River catchment in the Murray Darling, and the upper catchments of the Goulburn River, which flows into the Hunter and thence to the coast.

To the north east, the Rumker release area runs along 33km of the border of the Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area. Concern has already been raised at the World Heritage Centre and IUCN about the potential impacts of eight mining operations on the boundaries of the site.

There are several records of Koalas in the Hawkins area. A scientific study undertaken by BioLink found that 71% of Koala populations had been lost in six fire-affected areas in northern NSW after the catastrophic 2019/2020 bushfires.

Other important species recorded in Hawkins-Rumker include the critically endangered Regent honeyeater and the nationally-endangered Spotted-tailed quoll, which is reliant on large, intact habitats with old growth elements to survive.

I urge you to reject this and any further coal mining proposals. We need to work together, for the wellbeing of country and all its inhabitants. Or there will be no future for us.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 5:13:48 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 17:13

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

[REDACTED]

Last name

[REDACTED]

I would like my submission to remain confidential

Yes

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2779

Submission

As a Wiradjuri descent, I strongly ask that these culturally sensitive parts of our country not be leased out and sacrificed with the limited intention of acquiring such a finite and environmentally destructive resource that coal is.

Although I am not totally against mining, being that it has allowed Australia to be the affluent nation that it is, we have now moved well beyond the point in time of needing to change our practices to a more sustainable way of maintaining our economy and environment.

This proposal is very concerning, coal mining in these areas will significantly damage the integrity of our remaining environmental and cultural sites. We have already lost too much as it is.

I stand by my wish and hope that the first nations cultures of this continent be legitimately considered and respected. We are in fact, the oldest in the world.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 5:10:21 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 17:10

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Tim

Last name

Ashelford

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2065

Submission

Director Energy and Resource Policy,
 Department of Planning, Industry and Environment
 Locked Bag 502
 Parramatta NSW 2124

Tim Ashelford

[REDACTED]

Wollstonecraft 2065 NSW

[REDACTED]

15/08/2021

Subject: Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I have read the PRIA for the Hawkins and Rumker areas and I am against these areas being opened for coal exploration and mining.

My family regularly enjoys the natural beauty of this area; my father (originally from Bathurst), along with my brother, a geologist who lives in the Blue Mountains, and I, camp along these rivers and explore Wollemi, Gardens of Stone and Capertee National Parks.

Coal mining is a destructive process, and its impacts continue long after the resource has left the ground. Its demand is in decline and its use is at odds with national and international targets. I'll outline key reasons I reject this proposal below.

Coal Mine Exploration Contradicts Our Environmental Goals

NSW has committed to net-zero emissions by 2050 and a 35% cut by 2030. The impact of the coal being burnt must be taken into account. Three quarters of our coal is currently sent to Japan, South Korea and China, but what good are zero emissions in our own state if the greenhouse gases still make their way into our shared atmosphere?

The terrible 2019-2020 bushfire season has been shown to be driven by human-induced climate change, and hotter and drier conditions will continue unless this is brought under control. The recent IPCC report has outlined our risks as a species and the pathway out of it, it is not new coal mines.

More locally, pollution from mines is incredibly hard to contain to mining sites. With the Hunter already a pollution hotspot can increased risks of air, soil, water and noise pollution really be justified? The risk is particularly high for the nearby Wollemi National Park, which burned significantly in the recent bushfires and was part of a mission to save the endangered Wollemi Pine.

The Demand for Coal is Waning

The NSW Government and the Reserve Bank of Australia are forecasting a decrease in demand for thermal coal. On top of that, the G7 has agreed to end government support for new coal power generation.

Renewable sources of energy are regularly beating coal as they become more efficient and cost-effective. Consumers are aware of the climate crisis too, 79% of Australians are worried about climate change, and increasingly the public is demanding clean energy production.

Coal Mining Uses Water We Cannot Waste

Australia is known for its significant droughts, and with climate change these dry periods are likely to get worse. 2019 was our hottest and driest year on record, with many dams in NSW falling to critical levels.

Coal mining uses copious amounts of water, the industry uses enough to supply all of Sydney and up to 120 times more per kWh than solar and wind.

On top of this, coal mining risks cracking aquifers and draining swamps, with huge flow-on impacts on the water table and supply. Came West Swamp dried out from this exact thing.

Contamination is also a massive risk; with my studies in ecology and my brother's Masters on acid rock drainage impacts from mining, we are all too aware of the devastation heavy metals can wreak on the biodiversity of creek and river ecosystems.

Finally, the Rylstone Dam catchment is within this area, will we risk the water supply of numerous regional towns for a damaging mine that takes limited resources?

We Can Do Better

There are more impacts I could list, from the risks to endangered species to the social impact of highly paid miners moving into regional towns and pushing out locals. Are the Aboriginal sites in the area properly documented or are we risking another Junkan Gorge?

I believe I've outlined the most pressing issues above. NSW and Australia does not need another new coal mine, and we especially do not need it in Hawkins and Rumker, where it can damage the national park, the water supply and the population.

And most importantly, damage our camping trips.

Let's look at renewable options that can be explored in this region. We can leave the coal in the ground, creating new, skilled jobs that stay in the region and increase our capacity to leave fossil fuels behind us.

Best Regards,
Tim Ashelford

I agree to the above statement
Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 4:29:50 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox <[REDACTED]>
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 16:29

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Doug

Last name

Stewart

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

Denistone East, NSW, 2112

Submission

In my submission to the Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment for Hawkins and Rumker I urge you to REJECT the proposal. I make the following points:

- This is not the time to be considering ANY new possible new coal mines. There will be no market and use for coal. The mines will be abandoned. The cost and damage will never be recovered. Areas will be destroyed for no reason and no gain to NSW.
- The only future for removed coal is that it be burnt, releasing greenhouse gases and exacerbating climate change. It doesn't matter where on the planet it is burnt, the effect is catastrophic. The recent IPCC report should be considered in your review. Simply no coal mines or coal burning.
- The majority of citizens would not be in favour of this proposal and the Department should be guided by them - to do otherwise is to reject democracy.
- Coal mining puts at risk current values of land including agricultural production and forest production.
- Coal mines will negatively impact the hundreds of residents in the local community who live, and conduct business in the mine area.
- The majority of the land is covered by native vegetation. To coal mine would destroy trees and release carbon.
- Critical native habitat would be lost in many locations putting more pressure on fauna and flora in an area which is already under huge stress.
- The coal areas are adjacent to declared World Heritage Areas and National Parks whose value will be significantly decreased if coal mining was to proceed.
- Groundwater, a critical resource across this country will be put at risk by any proposal to mine coal. Impacts on the quantity and quality of groundwater will be immense and irreversible. Coal mines will force some agriculture in the area to become un-viable.
- Coal mining provides very few jobs and into the future even more mining automation may reduce the employment down to near zero. Profits from mining does not help the local economy and is unlikely to help the Australian economy.
- I urge you to completely dismiss the idea of releasing this land for coal exploration and mining. The residents of NSW are depending on you personally to make the right decision for all of us.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: 15/08/2021 3:42:04 PM
To: DPE Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Mailbox [REDACTED]
Cc: DPE PS ePlanning Exhibitions Mailbox [REDACTED]
Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 15:42

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

Name

First name

Rosemary

Last name

Barrett

I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

Info

Email

[REDACTED]

Suburb/Town & Postcode

2785

Submission

No coal

I agree to the above statement

Yes