

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 2:59:56 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 14:59

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**

Collaroy

**Submission**

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration.

This will significantly impact many families and individuals living in the Rylstone area and cripple their tourism industry.

The town is based on tourism and many locals own B&Bs in the local area. Renting out B&Bs is one way they're able to supplement their farming incomes.

Regrettably if the coal exploration goes ahead, a train line will run right past all the B&Bs and the train line will be operating at all hours. This train line will dramatically impact on the Rylstone tourism industry.

I know I as a Sydney sider living in the hustle and bustle of Sydney I have no inclination on renting a B&B with a train line running next to it. Sydney siders go to Rylstone to escape the noise and the sounds of train lines, we will not travel to experience the same noise pollution in the city. Rylstone is a town where Sydney siders go to experience a country feel, step back time and appreciate the experience. Once word gets out about the noise pollution, sounds of the train and the city feel, tourism numbers will plummet.

With less tourists, this would significantly affect the tourism industry in Rylstone, who have already been crippled by the fires of 2020 and lack of tourism due to the Covid restrictions on Sydney siders to travel in 2020 and 2021.

This will directly affect my family who own rental properties in Rylstone and will affect my interest in travelling to the area and I'm sure the same view resides with many other Sydney siders who will simply choose to travel to a different town.

As we all know the mental health detriments that have been shown when individuals are unable to source an income that I fear this train line will have that on the town. I ask you to please discuss this with the locals of Rylstone about how this will economically affect them.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 2:52:54 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 - 14:52

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

**Name**

**First name**

Cathy

**Last name**

Brown

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Bylong 2849

**Submission**

What the hell!! This is one of the most beautiful places in Australia  
Your greed will starve my grandchildren

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 2:44:10 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

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Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 14:44

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Tatiana

**Last name**

Brown

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Mount Victoria 2786

**Submission**

Please do not strip this beautiful place of its amazing wildlife, beautiful water and eco systems. This is sacred land.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 11:53:43 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 Sun, 15/08/2021 - 11:53

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Lindsay

**Last name**

Muffett

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Scone NSW 2337

**Submission**

It is with much sadness that I see organisation's seeking to mine coal, being oblivious to the long term effect it's burning has on the global environment.

What ever happened to the aim of reducing carbon emissions ?

Then there's the degradation to the landscape, the consumption of agricultural land (much more important to human sustainability than coal), the loss of dwellings of all creatures great and small and clearing of vegetation etc.

And finally, the adverse effects mining has on the local economy. It escalates housing prices and commodities, as the industries take advantage of the higher wage earners, and that leads to the lower income people being disadvantaged.

So, I personally am not in favour of any further coal mining extensions or new approvals.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 11:38:26 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 Sun, 15/08/2021 - 11:38

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Hannah

**Last name**

Wallace

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2779

**Submission**

Leave the swamp the way it is!

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 10:59:03 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 Sun, 15/08/2021 - 10:59

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Elisabeth

**Last name**

Brasse

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Darlinghurst 2010

**Submission**

In a world that has been fighting global heating for decades, Australia is a shameful last for action. NSW has, commendably, put goals in place - as you would be aware (35% cut in emissions by 2030 compared to 2005 levels, net zero emissions by 2050).

Any further investment in fossil fuels jeopardises this goal, harms future generations, and harms the economy both locally and nationally. Coal mines do not contribute positively to the world, and do harm to the areas they are in.

The proposed are for coal exploration, around Rylstone, would impact a precious heritage area, close to my heart as a regular visitor. It would have a negative impact on wildlife, water sources, farming, the heritage of the Dabee people, and more. The local community fiercely opposes coal exploration to be allowed in their area.

I support their struggle to protect their home and their struggle to protect us all from the hugely negative impact of coal mining.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 9:59:26 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 Sun, 15/08/2021 - 09:59

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Penelope

**Last name**

Le Couteur

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2785

**Submission**

I strongly object to allowing any further exploration for coal, especially in areas with significant values which will be destroyed.

We cannot afford to keep burning coal because of its impact on global temperatures, so why would we allow for further exploration?

Why would we allow something unnecessary, with its serious adverse impacts on water resources, aboriginal heritage, health of the local population, air and noise pollution, and agriculture.

Please say no.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 9:49:56 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

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Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 09:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Gillian

**Last name**

Fitzgerald

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2785

**Submission**

I oppose the Hawker Rumkins coal exploration near Rylstone. We can't keep having short term projects which destroy groundwater, decimate flora and fauna habitats and pollute the waterways. This is what I value and want to protect.

The Traditional Owners have identified 45 sacred sites in the area and potentially more yet to be discovered. They're the custodians of the land and their voices should be heard.

I live in Blackheath and usually visit the area a few times a year (Pre-COVID) to camp and explore the natural area. I worry about the impacts on the EEC's. The forests, the birds. What about the creeks downstream? What heavy metals are going to be leached into them and what effect is that going to have on the macroinvertebrates, the basis of the food web?

Please keep me informed.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 9:33:09 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 Sun, 15/08/2021 - 09:33

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Wendy

**Last name**

Gleen

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Murrays run 2325

**Submission**

Wendy Gleen

[REDACTED]

Murrays Run 2325

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I am strongly opposed to the Hawkins Rumker coal exploration in the Rylstone area. I live on the eastern side of the Wollemi wilderness area and object in terms of local, national and global impacts.

The ecological flow on effects from developments are rarely acknowledged. As well as the direct impact of the mine head, roads and other infrastructure, the surrounding ecosystem will be damaged by flow on effects such as ecological edge effects (e.g. incursion of weeds and feral species). I witnessed firsthand some of these impacts on ecosystem processes during my research for a masters degree in ecology at the University of Sydney. Development in this rural/bushland area will further fragment and disturb one of the most significant natural areas that still remains in NSW. Weakening one part of the natural system will weaken the whole. The NSW Government has a clear responsibility to manage natural resources in a sustainable way that recognizes inter-generational equity. The mining of coal on the edge of a wilderness area fails that responsibility in every conceivable way.

- Coal mining – increases climate change
- Damage of and incursion into wilderness area – impacts threatened species and degrades biodiversity
- Eco Tourism – degradation of the local area and wilderness lessens the attraction of the area for tourists.
- Damage to the collective human spirit - as wilderness areas disappear our connection with the natural world and sense of wonder is further fractured which impacts mental health.

Yours Sincerely,  
 Wendy Gleen

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 9:11:57 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

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Submitted on Sun, 15/08/2021 - 09:11

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Chloe

**Last name**

Hitchell

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Lawson

**Submission**

Ganduggy is one of the last places left slightly untouched by the government. It holds thousands of years older aboriginal art work hidden in the area. It holds heritage, history and current knowledge of Aboriginal Australia along with wildlife, native flora and clear enough water ways for animals to survive.

The government needs to turn around and start working on saving country rather than destroying it.

If you want to preserve the land you will have a lot more workers and people supporting you.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 15/08/2021 8:46:28 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 Sun, 15/08/2021 - 08:46

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Ian

**Last name**

Cunningham

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Thirroul 2515

**Submission**

The exploration and proposed coal mine for Hawkins Rumker should not go ahead. I have lived in and visited the Rylstone region over the last 12 years. The area is peaceful, vibrant and supports a beautiful natural environment. I am concerned with the pollution from the proposed mine. Noise and vibration will 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. This is currently a quiet and pristine area.

When there is short term sound from farming works, sound travels extensively through the valleys and across the plains in the area. This will have significant impacts well beyond the mining site. Air pollution also represents a risk to residents and visitor health as well as reducing the area amenity. I request the Planning department do not approve the mine.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 9:57:40 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

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Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 21:57

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Bruce

**Last name**

Christie

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Rylstone

**Submission**

The proposed opening of the Rylstone area for coal exploration will comprise the environment of what is currently an intact and unique area. There are numerous threatened species that are present in the district that will be affected by large scale disruption to the connectivity and integrity of the plant communities.

There are agricultural businesses in the area that have been operating for generations and the growing tourism industry will ensure the survival of many of these businesses as they diversify into this booming industry. A mine near Rylstone will destroy the aesthetics of the area and therefore the long term businesses that rely on tourism.

I cannot believe that anyone is seriously considering opening a new coal mine. With the push to renewable energy well on the way and the demand and price of coal dropping monthly it is hard to believe that the community has to fight such a ridiculous proposal.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 9:57:35 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 21:57

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Bruce

**Last name**

Christie

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Rylstone

**Submission**

The proposed opening of the Rylstone area for coal exploration will comprise the environment of what is currently an intact and unique area. There are numerous threatened species that are present in the district that will be affected by large scale disruption to the connectivity and integrity of the plant communities.

There are agricultural businesses in the area that have been operating for generations and the growing tourism industry will ensure the survival of many of these businesses as they diversify into this booming industry. A mine near Rylstone will destroy the aesthetics of the area and therefore the long term businesses that rely on tourism.

I cannot believe that anyone is seriously considering opening a new coal mine. With the push to renewable energy well on the way and the demand and price of coal dropping monthly it is hard to believe that the community has to fight such a ridiculous proposal.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 8:57:46 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

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Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 20:57

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Sonia

**Last name**

Christie

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Rylstone 2849

**Submission**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this proposal to release areas east of Rylstone for coal exploration.

Firstly as resident of Rylstone for 35 years we have seen a remarkable increase in the past few years (since the coal and cement industry slowly pulled out) in tourism to our small town which is self sustaining and sustainable long term.

Secondly it is an unbelievable prospect with the release of the recent IPCC report that any government globally would even consider having anything to do with coal or any other fossil fuel industry.

I am sure it was just a thought bubble not thought through properly which will now be knocked on the head.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 7:08:33 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

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Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 19:08

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Aliya

**Last name**

Libera

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Rylstone

**Submission**

I whole heartedly object to this and any other mine going ahead in our region. We are a small town depending on tourist and outside visitors, implementing a mine will alter the visual aesthetic value of our beautiful landscape. Another reason this is absurd is the growing concern of climate change and the effects mining can have to speed this up.

I'd really appreciate it if you could take my submission and all the others into great consideration before going ahead with the destruction of such a beautiful place.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 7:05:24 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 19:05

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**

Denmark

**Submission**

Hello

I'm from Denmark and on a couple of occasions I have had the opportunity to visit your beautiful country. Your culture, your beautiful nature and the warmth of your people has grown on me and because of that I now have some dear friends in the NSW area.

I'm sorry to hear that you are planning to look into the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration.

I understand that coal is a source for generating export revenues but in a rich and smart society like yours there must be other ways for generating smart income.

Looking into what we have done in regards to stop using coal in our society and put resources into exploring different areas of energy resources and solutions to provide a safe and environment friendly powergrid, I would assume that Australia could and should do the same.

The recent climate report from IPCC is pretty clear on what actions we need to take in order to safeguard our climate and protect our societies around the world.

We need to look in different areas than coal and put resources into developing new areas to generate sufficient energy for maintaining our societies and from my point I think solar would be quite interesting to develop much much more in your country.

There are huge opportunities in developing new technology both for satisfying own energy demands and especially also in regards to develop a blooming business in regards to develop technology and knowhow for building a strong export business in ie. solar and battery solutions and knowhow.

I have visited the fantastic nature in the area of your planned coal exploration twice and I strongly encourage you to stop your plans in regards to this exploration which just is a precursor to coal mining - for the sake of the nature and our planet - this needs to be stopped now.

I wish you all the best,

[REDACTED]

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 7:02:56 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

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Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 19:02

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Coco

**Last name**

Della Libera

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Glen Davis 2846

**Submission**

i believe that a coal mine should not be brought up as it would ruin valuable land and environment for native flora and fauna.

please to not go ahead with the coal mine.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 5:40:13 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 17:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

George

**Last name**

Bucan

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Nullo Mountain 2849

**Submission**

My objection is that as the price of coal goes down there will be more and more shortcuts as things get more desperate. There's money there and jobs there now but as the price goes down, this will change. There will be more short cuts and who is going to pay? It will be us, not the mining companies.

This mine will be an open cut mine and it will destroy everything.

Through here the Lithgow seam runs, this has many layers, separated by partings. There are thin layers of coal and to take these will require open cut to mine. There is not enough strength in the top layers to hold up the ground above to allow mining of the lower layers of coal by underground mining. It's not believable that if there's a 910MT deposit that only one seam would be mined. Of course all the seams are going to be mined and the only way this is going to happen, to get the coal is to open cut it and take everything. We could go underground, but there is a lot of coal that would be left. Of course, any mine company and the government would take it all.

There are a lot of places where there are coal mines and there is a lot of mines where there is still a lot of coal and this is not being fully used. People should not be greedy and open new places and wreck them. Use what is already there first.

I've worked in mines and an ex-soil-conservation worker. In mines, I worked on the team for rehabilitation in mines, they say they will come back and do the job later and they never do it. The rehabilitation doesn't get done properly. They just throw rock in, they mix the top soil with sub soil, and then no clay underneath. There is just a hard layer under the top soil so the water just runs away, there's no infiltration, no water holding capacity. So no proper rehabilitation. The mine management sets this out, it's their policies and they don't do the right thing. From my soil conservation work, I know what is needed to rehabilitate land that has been degraded, what the standards should be. In mines, there is just no standard, what should be done to rehab the land never gets done.

When we destroy the land we cannot get into a taxi and go to another planet. We have wrecked it and we can't go back.

If we get destroy our water, we cannot survive. If mining happens here, the water will disappear, or it will be toxic and kill us. Or we will have to pay a fortune to fix it. Who is going to pay for this? and who is going to be responsible for letting it happen?

Even underground mining wrecks everything. There was mining under Rocky Mountain near Kandos, and they mined under it and parts of the mountain have cracks in it. This is getting worse over time and the water runs through it and washes out all the fines.

All through this area is a sensitive area. The swamps will be gone, everything will be gone. It's got me beat why they're doing this.

If a mine opens here, crime will increase, all the riff raff comes in. If miners come to town, people who live here won't be able to afford to live here. When the mines to the north opened, miners moved to the area. There were locals in Mudgee who had been renting the same house for 20 years and they were kicked out to make way for the mining industry for more rent, more money. It's wrong. This is part of the social issues that mining causes.

If the coal mine goes ahead, I believe it will be a grave mistake, as I have worked in the industry and seen how it affects the environment and the community. This should not happen here.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 5:31:57 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 17:31

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Jackie

**Last name**

Bucan

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Nullo Mountain 2849

**Submission**

I object to Hawkins and Rumker being opened for coal exploration and mining. I do not want it to happen. I think it will be a big mistake and it will wreck our lovely valley and the community.

This area is good farming land and I love the clean, natural lifestyle we have here. My husband used to work in a coal mine and while he was working there, he was always grumpy and hard to live with. Since he has stopped working in the mine, he has become the man I married again.

I am concerned about the social impacts of a coal mine being built. When mines are constructed, hundreds of overpaid single men move into the area in a short space of time. They take up all the available accommodation which destroys or severely sets back local tourism and hospitality businesses.

It is well documented that during mine construction, adjacent communities see large increases in crime including theft, assault, vandalism and sexual assault. People who come to Rylstone and Kandos from Gulgong – the town closest to Ulan, Wilpinjong and Moolarben coals mines - often comment on the low levels of vandalism in our community.

Mine workers are paid high salaries compared to most people in our area. If the area is opened to mining, then property prices go up and rents go up. People who don't work in the mines can't afford to buy or rent somewhere to live and this flows through to other businesses. They can't pay higher wages but the people working for those businesses can't afford to buy or rent so they move away, and businesses struggle to find people to work for them.

I am worried about the water. Our property relies on ground water to get our stock through drought. During the last drought we had to go deeper and deeper to access water for our stock after our dams ran dry. Coal mines dig deep into the ground and break through the aquifers that hold underground water. I am worried that when the next drought comes, the water I need to keep my stock going won't be there because the mines have destroyed the water source.

Similarly, our property was impacted severely by the Gaspers Mountain bushfire in the summer of 2019/20. Firefighters helping to defend our property had to truck water 8 km to do so because our dams had run dry. We've been told that fires will get worse, and droughts will be longer. If a mine is built, it will destroy our water resources, including the Cudgegong River, and there won't be the water available to fight the next megafire that comes through our area.

One of the special things about this area is the wildlife. I love seeing wombats, kangaroos, wallabies, wombats, quolls, all sorts of animals. So much wildlife was killed in the Gaspers Mountain that it will take years for it to come back. If this area is mined, it will take the water the wildlife needs and make it even harder for it to recover.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 4:13:33 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 16:13

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**

3685

**Submission**

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW 2124

[REDACTED]

Rutherglen, VIC 3685

14.08.2021

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 44 years of age and have been visiting this region for the past 10 years. I grew up in a small country town in NSW where we only had farmland. There was no tourism, no unique fauna or landscapes, no mention of aboriginal heritage, and there were no sustainable industries in town or close by. Children left for the cities when their high school education finished as there was no jobs, with flow ons to community sport, and we essentially now have just an aging population, aged care and a few shops in the main street. No new businesses open and our population is decreasing.

What you have in this region is a vibrant community who have built long-term sustainable economic stability for this region largely dependent on tourism. 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.

New businesses that should be targeted need to be sustainable. Mining is not a sustainable industry and only creates wealth for a short duration, with little contribution to the local communities that it exploits for its water, farmland, air quality and housing affordability. Mining is also not a growing industry, there is getting to be less and less demand for coal as anticipated by the Reserve Bank of Australia as renewable energy expands, as countries who buy our coal are also moving away from fossil fuels.

Please reconsider,

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 3:42:10 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 15:42

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

**Name**

**First name**

Jane

**Last name**

Howes

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2022

**Submission**

I am writing as a concerned citizen of NSW and a parent, in relation to this submission.

This proposal is in complete opposition to the current IPCC report.

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.

It is too late for 'jobs and growth' to be created at the expense of the reaching the goal of staying within 1.5 degrees warming. There is no time left. Australia must be able to contribute something more than minerals to our economy. We are missing a huge opportunity to be at the forefront of new energy technology, with this persistence with fossil fuels.

Coal does not employ vast labour these days so any promises of 'local jobs' will not be kept. Local communities will suffer in terms of environmental degradation, risks to water supplies, and health impacts from coal dust and other pollution.

And for those who still work in the coal industry and need these roles to support their families - with all the warnings over the last 20 years that it is a dying industry - they clearly need support to re-train. Energy and focus must be provided to these poor souls who persist in these industries.

Coal is a bad investment. 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. Funds, and banks and other financial institutions across the globe are divesting of coal. Insurance of new plants is becoming more difficult and is increasingly against community sentiment.

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. Taxpayers and local communities will bear the brunt of clean up costs from mines that become stranded.

This proposal makes no sense.

thank you

Jane

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 2:51:34 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 14:51

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Simon

**Last name**

Mallender

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Allambie NSW 2100

**Submission**

Hi,

I'm Simon, father of two. I happen to have a Masters Degree in Electrical and Electronic Engineering from the University of Bath, (24 June 1986 – you can check it out). So I know a thing or two about power generation, distribution and the economics of power.

It has been an interesting week:

- \* large swathes of the northern hemisphere are on fire: Italy, Spain, Turkey, Greece, USA, Canada and even Siberia
- \* the world as we know it records its hottest month ever; and
- \* the IPCC release a report stating categorically that the world as we like it, will be danger of irretrievably disappearing forever.

Still Australia fails to realise its potential to be a global powerhouse, harvesting solar energy and exporting green hydrogen and green steel because our leaders lack the political courage to lead us there. There are indeed criminally incompetent.

And only someone who is criminally negligent would seriously consider opening a coal mine that will generate millions more tonnes of CO2 over the coming decades.

Don't be that person that allows that to happen.

Simon C R Mallender.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 12:58:58 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 12:58

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Stephanie

**Last name**

Hukins

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Sydney 2113

**Submission**

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

In light of this week's IPCC report, I strongly oppose this move. For our children's sake, rather than burden them by locking in further dire outcomes of climate change, please do not do this.

A 1.5C temperature rise will lead to 2.4 times more frequent droughts and a 1.5 times increase in extreme precipitation.

If we do not lower our carbon emissions (and stop building coal development which this proposal supports) we are more likely to lock in risks roughly double to 5.1 times and 2.8 times higher frequencies, at which point many parts of the world will become uninhabitable, mass migration becomes unavoidable and the economic impacts will be severe.

Can you live with this on your conscience? I can't, which is why I write to you today to reassess your support of this plan.

Thank you.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 12:55:24 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

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Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 12:55

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**

Clifton Hill 3068

**Submission**

I am opposed to the Hawkins Rumker area being opened for coal exploration.

The impact on local aquifers, including breaching aquitards, contamination and groundwater depletion, is irreversible.

Dust, noise, and poor air quality resulting from a coal mine and the associated truck movement is a health hazard to local residents.

Road damage from the increase in truck and equipment movement will create hazards and increased cost to the community for road renewal and repair.

The urgency of climate change requires government to prevent all new fossil fuel exploration and development. The world needs to immediately reduce the production and use of coal, oil, and gas.

Coal exploration needed to stop long ago - it is not acceptable now.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 11:07:58 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 11:07

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Jacqui

**Last name**

Dunn

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

3226

**Submission**

The public believes that the only reason such a decision would even be considered is for monetary gain by corrupt decision makers. If you go ahead on coal exploration you are signing a death sentence for all of us, including your own family. I am unsure why anyone would consider this. Be responsible, listen to the science and become a super power for the solution on climate change. Please.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 10:34:20 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

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Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 10:34

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Victoria

**Last name**

Tuson

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2795

**Submission**

I am concerned about the release of land for coal exploration in the listed areas.

My primary concern is the significance of the area to the local indigenous population, being areas of sacredness containing significant natural features and rock art examples.

Secondarily, the area is of great environmental value, filled with rare endemic species of flora and fauna, and also spectacular wild places to visit.

Thirdly, the roads and infrastructure are not suitable for the type of machinery required for such work.

I have immense fears that were coal to be located, that it would just be left where it was. The expenses taken to locate it and the environmental damage of such a task, would justify its extraction.

This also goes against my firm belief in the need to immediately stop using fossil fuel for the sake of our environment and the process of global warming.

Thank you.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 10:10:06 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 10:10

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

Susan

#### Last name

Kilminster

#### I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

## Info

#### Email

[REDACTED]

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

2064

#### Submission

Proposed new mine at Rylstone. 21.7.21

It is disappointing to learn of the state government's plans to open new areas in NSW to coal exploration, particularly in the Upper Hunter.

Some of the concerns are as follows

- existing mines are presently producing coal at well below capacity
- limited overseas markets
- over estimation of number of direct and indirect jobs
- development of automation with driverless trains and trucks resulting in loss of associated jobs
- subsidies for fossil fuels in the industry
- threat to the environment with its existing biodiversity
- lack of consultation with local indigenous groups with their special insight into the environment
- damage to the water table with large amounts of water extracted for the needs of the industry.
- the environment's loss of the water which was deemed necessary for coal extraction and thus diverted to that industry
- harmful effects of climate change
- air pollution in the Hunter Valley is harmful at the moment without the added pollution from proposed new mines.
- the cumulative effects of air pollution
- the health of the local residents is potentially affected by respiratory diseases caused by coal pollution.
- destruction of agricultural lands with its loss of existing markets and future expansion.
- loss of local jobs associated with the agricultural industry.

Over the last couple of weeks, the communities have been inundated with alarming news

- the recent report from the IPPC, which is made up of hundreds of scientists and governments, stated that global warming has now reached 1.1C since industrialisation (1850-1900). In Australia, warming has reached 1.4C.
- many scientists urge the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions by not opening any new mines in Australia.
- we are overwhelmed with news coverage of extreme droughts, fires, floods, landslides, warming in the atmosphere and the oceans and now plagues in Australia and overseas. Most scientists agree that these events are caused by global warming and that the world leaders need to plan and reduce carbon emissions into the atmosphere to zero.
- overseas countries are developing renewable industries thus replacing the fossil fuel industry by phasing out coal mining and not opening nor operating any new coal seam gas wells.
- Whitehaven is pleading guilty to stealing over 1 billion litres of water from Maules Creek Mine in Boggabri over a 3 year period during one of the worst droughts in history.
- how unethical is this behaviour in the community which Whitehaven claims to support
- who, how and when was it discussed, decided and planned to steal and misappropriate the water which is designated for the whole community and environment and not just for the mine's extraction of coal.
- who checks that the conditions under which the licence was granted, are being followed
- this shows that any mining company needs careful scrutiny and supervision at all stages of the development
- any concerns raised by the community about unlawful practices must be investigated immediately by an independent authority.
- why is it that the community's accusations are not believed and that the mining corporation has to be taken to court
- why is the mining corporation allowed to use these delaying tactics and add to the financial cost for the community
- this shows that the community was justified in voicing its lack of trust with the mining corporation.
- what compensation will Whitehaven be committed to pay to all affected parties

#### I agree to the above statement

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 8:09:23 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 08:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Judy

**Last name**

Deighton

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2795

**Submission**

It is unthinkable that the government continues to pursue coal mining.....anywhere...yet alone in a sensitive, natural and beautiful area such as this. With aboriginal significance, wildlife habitat, stretching clear creek waterways, natural forest vegetation, just to name a few, it should be preserved without doubt. It should never be destroyed by mining ... a disaster which would also contribute to the ever growing catastrophe that is climate change, devastating the whole world.

DO NOT MINE THIS AREA.... NOR ANY OTHER. NOBODY WANTS IT EXCEPT A GREEDY, POWER HUNGRY INDUSTRY AND GOVERNMENT.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 7:27:43 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 Sat, 14/08/2021 - 07:27

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Stacy

**Last name**

Wake

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2750

**Submission**

I have concerns on many levels about this proposed coal project and cannot comprehend why a government would consider a coal project when the science of man made climate change is irrefutable and the evidence of it is so obvious.

My objection is for all of the logical reasons that are well established and known, the impact to air, water, biodiversity, and the knock on effects of their impact outside of the region, but I object on another level also.

There is no need for more coal mining, there are sustainable energy sources that can be used. There should be more government investment and further research into non fossil fuel energy and not more coal mines. If the government showed leadership in regard to sustainable energy production and businesses; that would signal business and there would be further positive knock on effect to sustainable energy solutions.

The other level is risk to the future of the planet as a whole, even if you think this coal mine won't impact, which it will, and Australia is so small in the scheme of this things that this mine does not matter. It is the combined impact of all of the poor decisions made by man in regard to the environment that is the risk and it is not modelled or known, but the impact is being felt as we speak.

Just think of the most obvious and well known impacts in Australia in the last few years, the fires of 2019 and the heartbreaking loss of so many animals, the burning koalas, the mass fish kills in the many rivers, the loss of water downstream from mans intervention, the bleaching of the reef, the animal extinctions and flora loss, the deceased insect populations, the floods, the stranding of rare sawtooth fish in dried river beds, the loss of so many habitat/ hollow bearing trees to the fires, the death of millions of sea creatures from plastic.

As we speak, Europe and Siberia are on fire, doesn't that tell you something, it would be absolutely irresponsible in the extreme to the future of the planet and mankind to allow this.

The people who benefit are mine owners, the rich, the workers and others who may have benefited from the work and the living coming from coal can benefit from sustainable solutions that can be used instead. They would be better off in every way especially the communities health. Non coal environmentally sustainable employment will replace coal and keep communities employed.

Making a decision that will benefit a few rich people that will impact so negatively on the environment and people in such a big way can only be described as wrong on every level.

It is normal for a business to do a SWOT analysis, is the combined impact of environmental pressures left out of the Governments SWOT analysis when looking at future proposals. This is very flawed and dangerously irresponsible to the future of the environment and people

Across the world combined governmental bodies, business enterprises, insurance bodies agree that there is no place for coal mining in the future, banks have even stopped lending to them, why would the NSW government even consider a proposal.

It also worries me that the time to comment on this seemed very short and not very well publicised.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 14/08/2021 7:04:41 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Sat, 14/08/2021 - 07:04

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**

Bylong NSW

**Submission**

Hi as a resident of Bylong valley and neighbouring town Rylstone I am deeply disappointed that having overcome the decision to not go ahead with the Bylong valley KEPCO mine that the government would propose new mining in our beautiful district. Their is a threat to the table water and to the native environment which should be protected for future generations. We border one of the largest national parks this project should not go ahead!!!

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 11:24:05 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 23:24

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Gavin

**Last name**

Imhof

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Lane Cove 2066

**Submission**

The Government has not informed the community properly. There is no transparency in how the Government will evaluate the submissions.

Coal exploration and mining disturbs, contaminates and destroys waterways. Springs and bores can disappear through mining drilling and digging activities. The many creeks and rivers in the Growee, Lawson and Cudgegong catchments are at risk. The upper Cudgegong waterways the our town's main water supply, and this also flows into Windamere Dam, impacting Mudgee as mining uses extraordinary volumes of water. Without water, there is no agriculture, no communities, no tourism, no environment, nothing to fight bush fires with.

Coal mines operate at above normal recommended noise levels all day every day. Traffic from trucks will increase and coal trains will run through the towns. The dust and particulate matter from the mine and trucks/trains travels for kilometres. Pollution is inevitable, e.g. the Hunter valley is now one of the most polluted areas in Australia.

The community has worked very hard to build a thriving tourism industry. Tourism has sustained, long-term impact; mining is short term. Many of the local businesses are incompatible with mining as tourists don't come to see coal mines. The landscape may change irreversibly if it is mined.

Significant Aboriginal sites including art and ceremonial sites are at risk. Even if not mined directly, these can be damaged with subsidence.

The threat of coal exploration and mining creates uncertainty for people. This results in people leaving, people no longer investing in the region, and towns declining as people lose their jobs. Bylong is the perfect example. Very few, if any jobs are created by new mines. Properties and associated infrastructure are built for miners by their own people, not locals. Locals struggle to compete with high wages of miners which drives up housing and other costs.

Farms would be lost with up to 32,700ha of land becoming coalmines. Farms and food sustain communities for much longer than a coalmine.

Coal produces 2.42kg of carbon per kg of coal burnt. An underground mine also produces methane emissions.-The world is moving away from coal & Australia must encourage innovation and renewable energy.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 10:48:18 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 22:48

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Ronny

**Last name**

Zulaikha

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Woollahra 2025

**Submission**

Dear Sir/Madam

Given the shocking progression of climate change as detailed in the recent 2021 IPCC report, it seems unthinkable that we are even contemplating digging up more coal to burn.

I have read through the arguments from <https://rylstonecf.com/submissions/> copied below and agree with them all.

Regards

Ronny

Please consider the following:

- \* NSW government's own net-zero goal
- \* NSW government's 2021 Intergenerational report forecasts decreased royalties from thermal coal as international demand falls, both globally and from two of our major coal customers, Japan and South Korea.
- \* The Reserve Bank of Australia anticipates international thermal coal demand to decline in the long-term as renewable electricity generation becomes more viable
- \* The International Energy Agency, called for an immediate ban on new oil, coal and gas development
- \* The G7 agreed to end government support for new coal power by end of 2021
- \* World wide trend to move to sustainable energy sources
- \* 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 agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 9:26:27 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 21:26

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Ute

**Last name**

Foster

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Hurlstone Park NSW 2193

**Submission**

It is absolutely unthinkable to allow any more coal to be dug up from the ground.

Please read the report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change released this week. This is science telling us we have very little time left to avert catastrophic consequences of global warming. Surely the extreme weather events happening all over the globe now should convince anybody of the seriousness of our situation.

For the sake of our children and their children we need to stop burning fossil fuels now. Leave that coal in the ground. We can't afford to ruin our planet so a few already rich people can get even richer.

In earnest

Ute Foster

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 7:02:04 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 19:02

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**

Turrumurra 2074

**Submission**

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration. My reason is listed below.

I regularly visit the area on weekends and during holidays. Wollemi National Park is one of my favourite holiday destinations which is extremely close to the Hawkins Rumker area. All of this area has very rich wildlife available.

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 environmental assessment also identified almost 7,000 hectares of potentially threatened ecological communities, 22 threatened fauna species and six threatened flora species.

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

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

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 6:26:54 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 18:26

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**

Glebe

**Submission**

Submission for the Hawkins, Rumker, Ganguddy-Kelgoola Regions

Letter to [REDACTED]

Your Preliminary regional issues assessment does not mention Ganguddy-Kelgoola. But it is drawn and called out on the 'Coal mining release and exclusion areas map'. Why not, it's obvious it's next in line and if you are careless enough to release it, it will decimate our Olinda Valley/Ganguddy tourism and the quiet enjoyment of all who live and work in these areas. We are all entitled by law to the quiet enjoyment of our properties.

#### Pollution & OHS

- Dust & blasting noise pollution from the proposed mine itself and transport of coal by road, conveyer or uncovered rail, heavy road haulage through the basin and the towns of Kandos Lue and Rylstone.
- Note these rail lines have also not been used commercially for quite some time (30yrs) and citizens have built new homes adjacent to the disused rail line and IF these proposals eventuate the occupants will suffer Significant noise and coal dust pollution from train carriages passing through the towns of Lue Kandos and Rylstone 24/7, as will the houses in close proximity to a considerable extent, they should be compensated.
- In a properly designed and planned industrial centre the transport corridors are located remotely as is the industrial development, to the residential areas, in this case they will be right in the middle of the residential areas. Thanks!
- There is no over bridge at the Northern or Eastern Rylstone rail line crossings which would mean continuous unsafe interruption to all traffic due to coal trains. This is the main route out of town, many commuters and commercial traffic use this route. Imagine urgent traffic like Ambulance or Fire and emergency with no right of way. Ridiculous! I believe this to be illegal to take away or reduce access to emergency services.

#### Existing High Impact Industry

- We have an existing Coal fired power station at Mount Piper (60kms south)
- We are also facing the possible approval of a proposed open cut lead mine in Lue (20kms west) which will release lead dust from the west.
- We are also facing a Sydney rubbish incinerator at Wallerawang (65kms south) down the road from Mount Piper coal fired power station.
- We can see the resultant plumes of residual pollution from Mount Piper Coal fired Power Station already when southern wind conditions prevail.

Ground water pollution, the entire area is a natural water course and even in drought it is still largely unaffected for drinking water supply, fire fighting and farming. We don't want it reduced and polluted at all by coal mining.

Water Supply. shortages, there has been a proposal to raise the dam wall at Ganguddy to avoid water shortages for the towns that rely on the Cudgegong river for clean drinking and irrigation water, Namely Rylstone Kandos Mudgee via water table and the supply to agriculture reservoirs, Windamere and eventually Burrendong. Raising the wall will probably be supported by any mine application.

#### Flora and Fauna loss of habitat

Koalas, wombats, rare birds, regent honey eater, parrots and kangaroos  
 The close proximity border on Wolemi state forest

#### Culture and tourism.

- There are many associated problems with these areas being released for exploration and mining, raising the dam wall and supplying water to a developing a coal mine, will result in significant loss of 60000 yr old Wiradjuri Aboriginal artifacts and sites adjacent to the well known camping and eco resort are known as Ganguddy/Dunns swamp.
- The tourist and public amenity to Colonial Heritage working farms/stations, Dabee station, Olinda station, and eco/tourism, and some 32 surrounding farm stay businesses will also be destroyed by a mine in this basin.
- Hawkins/Rumker & Dabee and Olinda have cemeteries and grave sites from Colonial settlement and Aboriginal civilizations.
- Breakfast Creek and others will lose their income.
- Lue is a Heritage farming town.
- Rylstone is a working heritage town, one of the earliest and important settlements in the central west with many original Stone residential and commercial inns and other buildings like churches and the regions first goal and courthouse
- Local tourism businesses that do currently support the local economy will suffer and many will lose their businesses as who wants to holiday in a mining town and rehabilitation never fixes this.

#### Farming

There are 41 High Quality local beef, Lamb and feed businesses, and 25 olive and grape ventures including an olive press contractor and 6 Cellar door wineries/olive groves with restaurants & B&B. These will be adversely affected.

#### Health and Social effects

- Hospital & geriatric nursing locations 3 to 15 kms from mine exploration sites.
- Increased dust diseases locally and in mine workers/staff.
- ( I and 2 members of my family are asthmatic)
- Increased violence and bad behavior/bullying by mining staff driving loud utes.
- This happens, you probably wouldn't have heard of this have you?
- Increased road fatalities due to worker and truck road numbers.
- Increased youth mental health issues. suicide and drug crime due to social displacement and housing shortage. Not every young kid in town gets

a cushy job in the mine, but the children of itinerate mine workers do!

#### Economic benefits

It is seldom reported that towns in similar locations directly benefit substantially (despite all the big announcements) the existing local population in any way other than token, well advertised, insignificant grants by mining companies, which are used to garner support for their proposals.

Miners are increasingly becoming replaced in new mines by automation.

There are jobs created initially in the construction phase but after that Labour hire companies get the contract to supply temporary workers if and when the miners don't have enough preferred contractors (they follow the mining companies).

Minimal permanent jobs gain as miners are mainly specialist itinerate workers.

Towns become busier but they do not develop in a rounded balanced way, they just become 'coal towns'!

Have you ever heard of a university being substantially funded by mining in any other discipline than geology!

As far as indirect benefits, in this case the town of Mudgee will gain the contracts for engineering fabrication, if any, by virtue of existing accounts with mines in Ulan and Wollar.

All we will get is Noise and Dust and a respiratory disease nurse at the hospital.

Property price increases and local citizens affordability

Every mine causes home shortages in the area and rental prices follow suit, in an already unaffordable inflated market short of supply how is this a good idea.

What about my kids do they face a future of working in a coal mine and purchasing a home in an unhealthy environment at an inflated price.

#### Australian and NSW economy

We are heavily reliant on China and Asia in general for our export revenue, the last major downturn in coal prices, in 2014 produced the largest decline in Australia's terms of trade since 1959.

Banks insurance companies and others are more often than ever refusing to finance coal mines as they are a high risk venture! The tax laws in Australia and globally are such that corporations can shift profits to tax havens & avoid paying income Taxes despite their ventures being massively profitable.

China has a domestic reserve of coal in the Gobe desert so in the future regarding Australian coal they can take it or leave it!

These new mines proposed could quite well fail.

#### ERRORS IN YOUR OWN DOCUMENTATION

Your Preliminary regional issues assessment does not mention Ganguddy-Kelgoola. But it is drawn and called out on the 'Coal mining release and exclusion areas map'! Why not, it's obvious it's next in line and if you are careless enough to release it, it will decimate our Olinda Valley/Ganguddy tourism and the quiet enjoyment of all who live and work in these areas.

The NSW Government's own strategic release plan Dated April 2021 shows we are within an area of 'No proactive release of land for coal exploration under the strategic Release Framework. New coal exploration can only occur adjacent to an existing coal title' Meaning NO NEW COAL MINES UNLESS ADJACENT TO AN EXISTING MINE.

It seems the inclusion of land to release for coal exploration in the HAWKINS, RUMKER and GANGUDDY-KELGOOLA regions are thereby a rushed slight of hand or are illegal by your own legislation!

Every other area shown as a potential area for Proactive release for coal exploration under the Strategic Release Framework, IS adjacent to an existing mine!

In conclusion.

Would you accept a mine 5 kms from any suburb in the Sydney basin.

Your proposed rubbish incinerator was rejected in the Sydney basin on health risks, now you want to push it on Wallerawang and us as you won't lose that many votes! Well I reckon you may have underestimated the opposition!

Would Mudgee accept a new coal mine 5 kms from their town? I think not.

Their closest mines are 45 kms from town.

Many Illawara proposals have all been rejected, why, in that case because of significant opposition by cashed up extreme right wing radio announcers with attitude casting a light on your seemingly clandestine proposals/activity.

Does Lue/Rylstone or Kandos need a coal mine? NO WE DON'T!

Develop the Coolar South and Giants creek regions and leave us alone. They are already close to coal mining towns, go have a look at them sometime! You can take the opportunity to purchase some investment properties.

There are plenty of existing coal mines in the central west and Hunter Valley regions and many have gained their recent extension approvals, lets leave it at that thanks.

We don't want your filthy coal hole wrecking our productive prime farming/tourism community.

I withhold my name and address for fear of retribution due to voicing opposition, by itinerate mine staff and by supporters of these proposals.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 5:02:03 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 17:02

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

#### Submission

I am writing to vehemently oppose the proposal of the Hawkins and Rumker regions being opened for coal exploration and mining.

When we bought our property in 2003, it was after the "worst drought on record". Our main dam still had water. Our cattle were never thirsty. In the drought that culminated in the bushfires in 2019, our dam still had water. The Rural Fire Service helicopters took bucket-loads from the dam to help save our property, as well as other local infrastructure. Our dam is fed from springs.

It is indisputable that coal mining effects the flow of local waterways, springs and aquifers. Our bore is also likely to be effected.

Coal mining consumes approximately 653 litres for each tonne of coal produced. The DPIE is estimating that over 900 Megatonnes of coal are in Hawkins and Rumker. Say 20 million tonnes are mines each year, that is 13000 Megalitres per year. Where will this come from? How will it effect everyone else who uses the water? From local farms and residents, town water supplies, bushfire fighting capabilities, the fishermen, the aquatic animals, local flora and fauna... why are the short term interests of coal more important than everything else?

Our spring fed dam has survived successive droughts. The forecast is for ever hotter and drier summers. Will our dam continue to exist to provide water for us, our stock and local wildlife? In the face of extreme drought will it still survive? Will there be anything left to help fight bushfires? These are important questions we have already been asking and planning for. To add the extreme water usage of coal mines into this equation makes for a simpler answer: "Highly unlikely". With massive water use by coal mining, subsidence from mining, cracking the substrate and lowering water tables, it is certain the impact on us and local areas will be significant. It is likely the impact of coal mining will make our business, and many others, untenable. Our businesses and the local area will bring wealth to the area for many generations. The NSW government projects a short time frame for coal mining. Why destroy this area in the short term at the expense of present and future generations?

Of course it is not just our dam that could be irreversibly impacted, it's the water supply for the towns of Rylstone, Kandos, Charbon and Clandulla. Mining across the Rumker area will interrupt flows to the Rylstone Dam catchment area. Downstream of Rylstone Dam is Windamere Dam, which supplies Mudgee's town water.

The proposal at Bylong was ultimately dismissed as it's "groundwater impacts would be unacceptable". Hawkins and Rumker share some of the same catchments. There is no long-term strategy or vision behind this proposal.

Not only is the water usage an issue. Coal companies promise to mitigate the waste water discharge, however, there will always be some sort of pollution of groundwater and waterways through seepage. There are too many examples of coal tailings waste material polluting creeks and watercourses to believe it wouldn't happen in Hawkins and Rumker.

Due to the decreasing economic viability of coal mining and the length of time needed from exploration to production, it is highly unlikely to ever produce a dollar of royalties for the NSW government, yet will cost much in the way of uncertainty, mental health and community resilience for local landholders and residents.

To introduce the destructive potential of coal mining to the head of the catchment is an apt metaphor for this whole proposal... all this government sees is coal, nothing downstream, not the climate impacts, not the destruction of community, the loss of water, the impact on agricultural land, the biodiversity loss.

This misuse and loss of water resources alone is more than enough to stop this proposal at this stage. There is no way to avoid the reality that opening Hawkins and Rumker for exploration (and it's only being explored so it can then be mined) will destroy, pollute and overuse local water resources. These will have unseen, long-term and irreversible effects.

Please stop this proposal now. There is too much to lose.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 4:56:42 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 16:56

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**

Yes

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Normanhurst 2076

**Submission**

[REDACTED] Normanhurst 2076

13 August 2021

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW 2124

Re the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

As we face the exploding risks of global climate change and the future move away from the use of fossil fuels, it is simply inane to consider granting further rights in this area to mine more coal.

I therefore oppose any coal exploration and mining of coal in the identified Hawkins Rumker coal exploration area.

Unless we leave this coal where it is - in the ground, its continued use will exacerbate global warming leading to loss of species, more bush fires, adverse weather events, and more frequent and severe droughts.

In addition, the impacts on the local environment and people will be massive.

DO NOT GRANT ANY EXPLORATION OR MINING LICENCE OVER THIS AREA

I wish my name to be withheld from the PRIA submission site: Yes / No

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 4:49:02 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 16:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

**Name**

**First name**

Robin

**Last name**

Alan

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Mullumbimby

**Submission**

I am strongly opposed to the opening of new coal mines anywhere near National Park boundaries and on the grounds of their known impact on climate change.

I cannot fathom how the state government sets a zero co2 emissions target of 2050 and yet is considering further fossil fuel projects.

EarthScape Consulting have identified a very large number of Aboriginal Heritage sites, 22 fauna and 6 flora species on the extensive 327 square kilometre area of the Hawkins/ Rumker site. Almost a quarter of this total includes potentially threatened ecological communities.

I have visited the Ganguddy camping area with my granddaughter and am aware of the extraordinary natural beauty, and tourist values of the area.

Coal has "a finite lifespan as an energy source" and is fast becoming uneconomic.

I am writing this submission on behalf of my organisation, Mindfulness in Education. My work is with students in primary schools. These children, currently aged 6 - 12 will be voting in 6 - 12 years. None of them wants to work in a coal mine. All of them are very concerned about climate change. All of them know the importance of reducing fossil fuel emissions immediately, and of preserving our natural habitats.

Yours sincerely,  
 Robin Allan

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 4:32:00 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

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Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 16:32

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Geoffrey

**Last name**

Bricknell

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

3140

**Submission**

Submission:

ONLY the politically corrupt or the environmental fossil fuel industry corporate terrorists are driving this particular bus over our collective cliff.

BURNING FOSSIL FUELS IS BURNING OUR COLLECTIVE FUTURE... this behaviour is appalling greed driven insanity.

STOP BURNING OUR FUTURE.

STOP BURNING OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE.

STOP BURNING OUR ONE AND ONLY ENVIRONMENT.

When we kill our planetary environment all the money, wealth and political / corporate power will be WORTHLESS.

So... the real question is... Why are we all travelling this inevitable road ???

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 4:23:28 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 16:23

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Stephen

**Last name**

Morris

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Magenta NSW 2261

**Submission**

I would like to ask a very simple question:

Why is the government looking to allow coal exploration in the Hawkins Rumker area when according to the recent IPCC Report climate change is increasing rapidly and coal is the biggest single contributor to climate change?

Haven't you seen the extreme weather events now taking place around the world including unprecedented heat waves and bushfires plus huge cyclones and floods, never before experienced. The planet is not coping with what humans are doing to it and you want to do more?

Is this rational and logical?

Australia has the sun, wind and most importantly the huge land mass to be a major supplier of green energy to the world through solar and wind farms with battery backup. Electricity generated from these farms can be used to make liquid hydrogen and ammonia for export.

We should be leading the world not going backwards into the dark ages. Coal was very important to drive the Industrial Revolution but has had its day. Green energy is now cheaper than coal so why do you want to take Australia backwards, not to mention the harm this will do to the environment.

We have a responsibility to lead the world not take it backwards. For the sake of our children you must stop this madness.

Stephen Morris  
 B. Comm Economics UNSW

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 3:43:33 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 15:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Shayne

**Last name**

Collier

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Sydney

**Submission**

Hi,

I don't understand why the government is still considering coal exploration anywhere in the state.

It breaks my heart that politicians continue to put convenience and possibly their own personal career motives above the preservation of what's left of our unique natural environment.

The proposed exploration of the Hawkins Rumker 'coal release area' is a despicable move from a government that lacks vision and bravery.

Why can't we just leave the land as it is? Why do we have to go in and build/develop roads tunnels bridges housing developments, chop down or dig up everything in sight?

Be brave and say 'no' to this proposal. You might be surprised at how good it will make you feel to know that you have taken a stand for the environment, for future generations and the survival of our planet.

Regards,  
 Shayne Collier

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 3:37:05 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 15:37

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Joseph

**Last name**

Castley

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Artamon

**Submission**

I am shocked by the report that there is serious interest in opening up the Hawkins and Rumker area in NSW for coal exploration licences. Given the state of the planet vis-a-vis atmospheric temperatures and what we are experiencing with climate induced disasters it is absolutely insane to be considering new coal mining projects. Please do not approve this dangerous project.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 3:16:27 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 15:16

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

John

**Last name**

Edye

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Cedar Brush Creek 2259

**Submission**

I understand that the State Government is proposing further exploration for coal in the Hawkins & Rumker region north east of Rylstone, with a view to giving approval for two new coal mines in the area. The Department of Planning is taking submissions from the community about this proposal until 18 August and, as a long term resident of the region, I completely reject the proposal on the following grounds.....

The landscape, air and water quality, viticulture industry, farming land, land values and many other quality of life issues have been profoundly degraded by past and current mining practices in the Hunter Valley.

The whole concept of opening new coal mines in NSW is absurd, given the changes that mining has already wrought on the state, and the massive impact that mining and burning coal has on the development of climate change.

If coal from these two proposed mines is mined and burnt, it is an absolute climate time bomb! No new mines should be approved in NSW under any circumstances.

Along with global climate impacts, gigantic spoil heaps, damage to valuable farmland, polluted air and damaged infrastructure coal mining has also had an incredible negative impact on the viticulture industry and tourism. Both of those industries have a long and sustainable history in the Hunter for more than 150 years.

It is critical that the Hunter Valley, and the planet, are given the opportunity to transition to a coal free future, and evolve as a healthy primary production, small innovative industry and tourism region.

Please ensure that no more coal mines are approved in NSW, and especially in the Hunter Valley.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 3:08:52 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 15:08

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

john

#### Last name

darmody

#### I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

## Info

#### Email

[REDACTED]

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

Clontarf

#### Submission

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

John Darmody

[REDACTED] Clontarf NSW 2093

13 August 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 a registered professional engineer, specializing in water. One of my major concerns of this project is the impact that it will have on regional water resources. I know that this area is rich in natural springs and bores. I have worked on groundwater across NSW and have seen the results of coal development on water in the area. 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.

I also take issue with the Approvals 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 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.

Finally, Australia and the world needs fewer coal mines, not more. 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.

John Darmody, Chartered Professional Engineer.

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 2:58:03 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 14:58

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Jenny

**Last name**

Andrews

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Aranda

**Submission**

There are many reasons why this proposal by the BSW government is a bad idea, but chief among them is the urgent need to reduce carbon dioxide emissions as quickly as we can.

The IPCC report should convince the government to immediately cancel the plan.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

From: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: 13/08/2021 2:53:29 PM  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Cc: [REDACTED]  
 Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 14:53

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

2850

#### Submission

I am a Wiradjuri woman, "yinaa" (Wiradjuri language) – I was born on country, but my dad took us (our family) away. We were the "hidden generation." We always lived out of town so we could see who was coming – out of fear. We were taken off country and told to never speak about our heritage. So, I was an adult before I could admit, without the fear, that I was aboriginal and could come back to country. My aunty went to her grave without ever admitting she was aboriginal because of the fear.

Now, I work in our community and help pass on our cultural traditions in both our own and the broader community. We try to get people involved to create greater understanding and to develop relationship to care for country. We are working to be approachable and build our community.

Mining doesn't help us, or me in this pursuit for all the following reasons (in no particular order)

I don't want them to destroy the lands  
 I don't want them to destroy the ancient sites and what's on the ground and around these ancient sites  
 I don't them to destroy the beauty of this place  
 If there is Rock-Art in the areas that are mined – these will be lost forever – they are irreplaceable

You can't replace country, you can't replace the scenery

What do the future generations have?  
 What do our young people (us aboriginal people) do, what do we have to share with them, how do we teach our culture when we have no place – or country has been destroyed?

It will be destroying our way of life – The country will not come back the same

People's livelihoods will be destroyed – what ARE they going to do?

Recreational areas will be gone – who wants to go to Ganguddy if you've got a mine going along beside with all the dust and noise.

.... And then there's your health ..... they may check the miners health every couple of years, but they don't consider the public health

What about all the trees? – the trees are ancient, just look at the girth of some of our trees ..... and the grasses, the shrubs ..... it's the whole ..... and it will be gone if a mine goes ahead

All the animals are being pushed out of their habitat – how do they survive? – we will lose animals – Our animals suffered enough with the drought and the bushfires, and now this will be a bigger assault.

When it comes to rehabilitation, they don't put back all the native grasses, the native trees – it's never a complete landscape. It's impossible to put back trees that are decades and centuries old

A mine scape – it's not good - - it's a big hole in the ground – it looks like a moonscape – they can't put back the rock formations of our country – they are lost forever – they've been blown up.

The Water is a big thing – there is NO guarantee that they won't destroy it – they will be taking away the natural flow of the water, destroying springs & creeks – it will be lost forever – Water is critical -especially in this country.

Health – the dust & noise and pollution – it's horrible. Muswellbrook as example is terrible

The coal is in the ground for a reason – what is the reason that it's there for??

All these minerals are in the ground for a reason.

The experts don't know why they are there

Countries that have mined all their minerals – they are not doing so well

All my family have been forced into mining – they need to buy houses and raise families, their souls are torn to pieces – there were other industries and jobs, but the mine took over those businesses ..... So there's nowhere to go..... and it becomes unaffordable

This mine can't go ahead.

I agree to the above statement

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 2:46:56 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 14:21

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Elizabeth

**Last name**

Honey

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

North Lambton NSW

**Submission**

I am opposed to the proposed Hawkins Rumker Coal Exploration for the following reasons:-

Loss of water - Mining disturbs, contaminates and destroys waterways. Minings uses huge amounts of water, which in a drying climate we can't afford, lack of water means agriculture is harmed, the environment is harmed and bushfires can't be fought. Tourism is affected and communities are destroyed.

Air and noise pollution - Dust and particulate emissions from mining and associated trucks and trains are damaging communities and causing grave health problems i the Hunter. The noise levels are also above recommended levels all dayevery day.

Climate change - Coal produces 2.42k of carbon emissions per kilogram of coal burnt. Mining also produces methane which is even worse for the climate than carbon. The latest IPCC report says that we must reduce fossil fuel use rapidly if we are to have a habitable planet in the future, opening new mines is not consistent with these findings. Australia must focus on renewables and the jobs that are created by them.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 1:34:43 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 13:34

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Camila

**Last name**

Cremonese

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Kensington 2033

**Submission**

C Cremonese submission\_signed.docx

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 1:27:43 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

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Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 13:27

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

John

**Last name**

Salmon

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

3690

**Submission**

Dear Team

As a fellow Australian concerned about the welfare of our children and mankind in general, I wish to object STRONGLY to developing yet another coal mine.

The most recent IPCC makes it abundantly clear that carbon extraction must stop, this is not negotiable!

There are many better long term solutions too employing our folk that take planetary health into consideration, for instance renewable energy projects.

Don't disappoint the majority of Australians who are deeply concerned about Australia's rather poor efforts to date in addressing climate change

Yours sincerely

Dr John R Salmon MB BS, FRANZCOG ret

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 1:05:30 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 13:05

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Joanne

**Last name**

Heathcote

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2785

**Submission**

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

Joanne Heathcote 43yo  
 Blackheath  
 13th August 2021

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

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

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.

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.

The community consultation meeting was a disgrace.

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.

Australia exports a huge percentage of its coal overseas. The NSW government acknowledges the phase-out of thermal coal mining has to happen. This year, the G7 has committed to end public support for unabated coal generation by end of 2021.

Air, water, soil and noise pollution, do not stay within the boundaries of the coal mining sites. There will be a rise in respiratory and cardiac conditions.

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.

Yours sincerely, Joanne Heathcote

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 12:52:32 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 12:52

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

John

**Last name**

Blair

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Cremorne, 2090

**Submission**

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

John Blair

[REDACTED]

Cremorne,  
 NSW 2090

Aug 13, 2021

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

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

i) Fossil fuel use is destroying our climate, making life difficult for human beings by bringing greater and greater extremes of drought, flood, heatwaves and crippling fires. The IPCC report publicized in early August 2021 is a thoroughly validated document, contributed to by up to 30,000 scientists so why would my government (of NSW) ignore this and contemplate a very large new coal mine given its huge CO2 output as well as smaller quantities of methane? Renewable energy is no longer the long term solution; it has to be increasingly the short term answer;

ii) Secondly, there is the water issue. This area is rich in natural springs and bores but exploration and especially mining can have major impacts on the water resources of a local area, for example drilling can crack and drain underground aquifers and water, once it has gone is lost forever. Let's apply the precautionary principle!

iii) And then there are issues connected with biodiversity. We have lost more native flora and wildlife than any other continent and mining will continue this worrying trend. Do we care about losing native flora and wildlife? Apparently not but it gives us services – and they are free! Why deal another blow to our unique ecosystem heritage?

iv) Then, there are indigenous issues, issues for the local economy and health issues for local residents. The likely social and environmental impacts of this proposal are appalling. We are no longer living in the mid 20th century so let's apply the precautionary principle for once and pull out of this disastrous proposal.

I wish my name to be withheld from the PRIA submission site: No

Yours sincerely,

John Blair

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 12:42:24 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 12:42

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**

Kensington, 2033

**Submission**

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW2124

[REDACTED]

Kensington NSW 2033

13 Aug 2021

Submission for the Hawkins Rumker Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment

I write to express my strong opposition to NSW government's proposed coal exploration of Hawkins Rumker.

I am 36 year old female living in Sydney and have been a regular visitor to the Hawkins Rumker region for the past five years. I travel to this area to enjoy time away from the city and to immerse myself in a natural environment.

I was devastated to hear the proposal for coal exploration in this region. This is a previously untouched environment and to allow coal exploration to proceed will dramatically change the landscape and cause lasting irreparable environmental damage.

The NSW BioNet, for instance, has recorded 293 threatened or endangered species in the Mid-Western Region Council LGA alone. Allowing coal exploration will mean waterways would be disturbed or destroyed and this would result in 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 Cows Creek is thoroughly unique and would be under threat.

I am deeply skeptical of any coal miner's claims it will be able to remediate the environment. A recently released report from The Australia Institute indicates remediation bonds are typically insufficient for environmental rehabilitation.

Allowing mine exploration in this region would transform this beautiful area into an industrial wasteland. It is a decision that is entirely avoidable given the declining global demand for thermal coal. A decision to proceed would inflict great environmental trauma with little economic benefit.

In short, there is zero benefit for all involved, save for the vested political interests of a few.

I urge the NSW government to stop this coal exploration. We need bold action and courageous conviction. The NSW government has already committed to net zero carbon emissions by 2050. I implore you to allow your actions to reflect this commitment and to protect the Hawkins Rumker environment for future generations.

Yours sincerely,

[REDACTED]

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 12:36:38 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 12:36

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

Les

#### Last name

Johnston

#### I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

## Info

#### Email

[REDACTED]

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

Balmain 2041

#### Submission

I strongly object to the proposal to make the area of Hawkins Rumker and Ganguddy-Kelgoola open to exploration for coal extraction.

I am an environmental professional and am very concerned about the effect of the proposed coal exploration because, if coal is found, the environmental effects of that coal mining will be considerable at the local, regional and international levels.

At the local level, coal mining will impact both surface and ground waters and cause a reduction in availability. Coal mining causes considerable water pollution and requires much water for washing of coal. The extraction of groundwater will impact availability for existing users including farmers. It will also impact existing ecosystems including endangered species. This is not acceptable.

Coal mining also causes the release of methane into the local environment. Methane is a known gas to cause global warming. There are no coal mining operations which have effectively prevented methane emissions into the local atmosphere.

The transport of coal using open coal wagons generates a considerable amount of dust which impacts residents living adjacent to the railway lines. Attempts to reduce the amount of coal dust have been largely unsuccessful.

The small amount of profit in coal mining causes coal exports to be heavily reliant on subsidies and use of infrastructure provided by the taxpayers of NSW. The actual financial return to the local community is almost negligible. While coal miners claim considerable benefits to the local economy, there is actually very little local employment required for highly mechanised mining activities.

The impact of coal mining on indigenous heritage has been considerable from past experience. Coal mining in this area is likely to see extensive destruction to the numerous identified sites. Coal mining has been shown to be unsympathetic to the protection of indigenous heritage.

Scope 3 emissions from the combustion of coal impact the one atmosphere of planet earth. While the coal mining directly impacts local residents, those residents are also impacted by global warming. This is because there has been no financially viable carbon capture and storage project at this point of time.

For the above reasons, the proposed coal exploration must be rejected in its entirety.

#### I agree to the above statement

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 12:35:54 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 12:35

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Martine

**Last name**

Holberton

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Northcote

**Submission**

I am shocked that the NSW Government is considering any new coal mines / expansion of coal exploration. How can the NSW Government promote Renewable Energy Zones and emissions targets, while at the same time consider extracting more fossil fuels? The IPCC Report clearly states that we MUST transition as quickly as possible away from fossil fuels. Yes, they may still be part of the mix during the transition, but it has to be a rapid transition, which means no new or expanded projects.

My objection is therefore based on both environmental and political ideology. The NSW Government cannot honestly propose continued expansion / exploration of fossil fuels while at the same time promote its commitment to net zero by 2050.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 12:20:59 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 12:20

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Kenneth

**Last name**

Hocking

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

NORTH TURRAMURRA

**Submission**

I am appalled at the news that the State Coalition Government is even considering the further development of the coal industry in the State -- and this as a long-time Liberal voter.

There is little chance that these emails to you will have much effect, especially from one in this blue-ribbon (for now) Liberal seat, so I will not waste your time, and mine by repeating the arguments against the development by more powerful voices than mine.

Suffice it to say that I FULLY support the points already made by Dr Brad Smith and nature.org.au, (but apparently ignored) in their action and I will be voicing my opinion where it just may be heard.

Please withdraw your and the Coalition's support for this disastrous development.

Sincerely,

K H Hocking (Mr)

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 12:20:18 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 12:20

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Roger

**Last name**

Caffin

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

bermilee 2159

**Submission**

Surely by now it is obvious that Climate Change is already happening, with disasterous results, all around the world.

Renewables energy sources are coming on-stream at a great rate.

We simply do not need new coal mines and we certainly do NOT want more CO2 being emitted, making the state of the world even worse.

I am sure the fossil fuel industry is howling at their loss of a future, just like the tobacco industry was. But both have been killing people and suppressing their own knowledge of the damage they have been doing.

ENOUGH!

We, the electors, want this stopped NOW.

Yours sincerely

Roger Caffin

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 11:52:03 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 11:52

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

Stewart

#### Last name

Wauchop

#### I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

## Info

#### Email

[REDACTED]

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

queenscliff 2096

#### Submission

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

Delete all text that is highlighted.

Full Name

Full address

Date

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 xxx years of age and have been living in / visiting the area for xxx years.

You are welcome to draw on any of the information you like, but please remember to change the wording a bit into your own words so that they do not consider this a 'form letter' and give it a low weighting. The references used are all available on our website if you would like to get more information from them.

#### 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<sup>10, 11</sup>. 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 Creek<sup>16</sup> could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Cox's Creek is thoroughly unique<sup>16</sup> 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 in 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 region<sup>28</sup> and economic stability.

I wish my name to be withheld from the PRIA submission site: No

Yours sincerely,

Stewart Wauchop

**I agree to the above statement**  
Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 11:33:28 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 11:33

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Rebecca

**Last name**

Coghlan

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2093

**Submission**

I am asking that you rethink any proposed mining in this region. We are in a world that is asking for us all to think more carefully to what we are doing to the worlds environment. Even if we aren't using the byproducts we are transferring them to other countries who will pollute our environment.

- One of the greatest threats is to our region's precious water supplies.

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 drastically 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 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?

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

From: [REDACTED]  
 Sent: 13/08/2021 11:29:48 AM  
 To: [REDACTED]  
 Cc: [REDACTED]  
 Subject: Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 11:29

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

2047

Submission

[REDACTED]

Parramatta NSW 2124

13/08/2021

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 xxx years of age and have been living in / visiting the area for xxx years.

You are welcome to draw on any of the information you like, but please remember to change the wording a bit into your own words so that they do not consider this a 'form letter' and give it a low weighting. The references used are all available on our website if you would like to get more information from them.

#### 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<sup>10, 11</sup>. 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 Creek<sup>16</sup> could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Coxs Creek is thoroughly unique<sup>16</sup> 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 in 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 region<sup>28</sup> and economic stability.

I wish my name to be withheld from the PRIA submission site: Yes / No

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]

I agree to the above statement  
Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 11:09:27 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 11:09

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Marcus

**Last name**

Cremonese

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Rylstone 2849

**Submission**

MCremonese Submission.jpeg

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 10:46:30 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

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Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 10:46

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**

2065

**Submission**

We don't need more coal mines in NSW, I'd like to see the money going into renewables, both infrastructure to replace our aging power supply network, and research and development of newer technologies to push NSW into the forefront of the sustainable market. Mines in such close proximity to a national park, especially with such rare and endemic species that need to be preserved and protected, should not be allowed to go ahead either. Mines are the easy way, using old technologies and damaging the environment, you need to be leading us towards a green and sustainable future.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 9:06:31 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Fri, 13/08/2021 - 09:06

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**

Marrickville

**Submission**

Think of the koalas, think of the potential loss of carbon absorption / release. Given the recent IPCC report this week, I think it's time to take a serious reaction to the future we're going to live in. There is no going back from 2 degrees....

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 8:53:51 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 08:53

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Patrick

**Last name**

Sloan

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Skennars Head 2478

**Submission**

Attention: Director Energy and Resources Policy

Re: Hawkins and Rumker areas Coal Exploration

The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has this week released it's latest report with the findings indicating that we are nearly out of time to prevent catastrophic climate change. Findings indicate that any further fossil fuel extraction would have horribly detrimental impacts to current and future generations and would do irreversible damage to the natural systems of life support we (humanity) rely on.

Any further release of land for coal exploration would be in direct contradiction to the NSW Government's duty of care to protect it's citizens and ensure their welfare. I am shocked and deeply disturbed that this is under consideration given our current understanding of anthropogenic climate change.

As resources such as coal belong to the state (i.e. the citizens of NSW) it is in the very best interest of the citizens of NSW that these resources which contribute to catastrophic climate change remain in the ground. The NSW Government must act in the best interest of the people they represent and mandate that all fossil fuels contributing to climate change, other than that immediately required for our zero emissions transition, are to remain in the ground where they cannot do harm to the citizens of NSW or to our precious environment.

Given the state that our climate is in and the impacts of fossil fuel it is ridiculous that the NSW Government would consider opening any further land up to coal exploration. I urge you to act on behalf of and with consideration to the citizens of NSW and decide not to allow the proposed areas to be opened up for coal exploration. This is the only logical course of action should the NSW government be committed to the safety and prosperity of the people of NSW.

The science is clear on this and to act in anyway other than to keep fossil fuels in the ground would be highly reckless, narrow and short sighted, and deeply irresponsible.

Regards,

Patrick Sloan

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13/08/2021 7:28:46 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 Fri, 13/08/2021 - 07:28

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Brendan

**Last name**

Coates

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Wollongong

**Submission**

I'm a father of five (well 2 plus 3) and am worried about the expansion of coal in any capacity and it's impact on the future health of my children and grandchildren and the environment we are caretaking for them.

Coal exploration inevitably results in coal mining, otherwise what's the point? So please don't allow exploration under the guise of we'll stop it from happening later... it's needs to stop at the first hurdle (or at least the next one)

Some reasons and supporting points as follows

NSW government's own net-zero goal

NSW government's 2021 Intergenerational report forecasts decreased royalties from thermal coal as international demand falls, both globally and from two of our major coal customers, Japan and South Korea.

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

The International Energy Agency, called for an immediate ban on new oil, coal and gas development

The G7 agreed to end government support for new coal power by end of 2021

World wide trend to move to sustainable energy sources

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 agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 9:38:47 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 Thu, 12/08/2021 - 21:38

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Toby

**Last name**

Lodewijks

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Airlie beach, 4802

**Submission**

Hello,

My Name is Toby. I was Raised In Rylstone and attended Kandos high school, I graduated in 2013 and was lucky enough to be elected as school captain in my final year. This opened many doors for me, leading to where I am now.

I have been fortunate enough to work on the Great Barrier Reef for a number of years and be a part of multiple organisations that promote the health and protection of the worlds largest marine park.

As part of these networks I have given numerous talks on climate change, Indigenous Cultural heritage, significance of native flora & fauna and the effects of mining on the Great Barrier Reef.

I never thought until now that these topics would also be so incredibly relevant to my home town.

I have seen so many incredibly beautiful areas negatively impacted by mining During my childhood in the central west, including the Bylong Valley, Hunter Valley and Wollar.

It would be absolutely heart breaking if a town like Rylstone met the same fate as those previously mentioned.

I don't think sacrificing the physical Landscape, water quality, native fauna, small town values and sites of indigenous significance is worth it for short term profitability for the NSW Government.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 9:24:01 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 Thu, 12/08/2021 - 21:24

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am submitting on behalf of my organisation

**Name**

**First name**

Stephanie

**Last name**

Steenbuck

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2850

**Submission**

Writing on behalf of Pieter van Gent winery and vineyard. We have been the quiet earners for the mid western regional council, and have thus far enjoyed the respect that the dusty earth revenging mining work has been outside of the visual allure of the stunning area we are so proud of. Mudjee has worked hard for accolades in the top 10 places to visit in the world. The hunter valley never earned that, and it's because of the visually destructive mining that has no care for the long term prosperity for regional country towns beyond its own financial gain. Give our slow economy a chance and don't destroy our region with fast cash to the detriment of the hard working backbone who will be here long after a mining company that's not even owned by a Mudjee business. Do the right thing by our community.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 9:05:23 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 Thu, 12/08/2021 - 21:05

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Tracey

**Last name**

Lloyd

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Toronto 2283

**Submission**

I'm an avid bushwalker and outdoor explorer, and am also involved in the emergency services. In the black summer fires, I experienced first hand the destruction of our natural bush and forests, which included some of the Wollemi National 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.

The exploration may have detrimental effects to water tables and aquifers, and 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.

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

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 and cardiac conditions in NSW.

Based on the recent IPCC findings and the NSW government's own commitment to net 0 carbon emissions by 2050, we shouldn't create an even steeper hill to climb, and approving this coal mine exploration will only make achieving this target harder. We should instead focus on our clean energy transition and encourage investment elsewhere.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 8:53:46 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 20:53

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**

Mudgee 2850

**Submission**

This is wrong. No way should this land be exposed to mining. We've destroyed enough land in this State already.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 8:02:15 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 20:02

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**

2010

**Submission**

Dear team,

Following the release new IPCC report, it is evident that allowing for new coal site will

(1) be likely unprofitable long-term (there is no future for the coal industry),

(2) pollute environment, exacerbate climate crisis, and put in danger health and future of Australians, and

(3) is highly unethical as you know of the dangers of such projects.

Therefore, please rejecting the application for coal exploration.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 7:18:05 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 19:18

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**

Olinda, 2849

#### Submission

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

This opposition in this submission is solely based on the amount of green house emissions this project would release.

According to the DPIE, there are an estimated 910 million tonnes of coal in the Hawkins and Rumker areas. The extraction, transport and burning of this amount of coal would add a massive amount of CO2 into a world that is already reeling from unchecked carbon emissions.

The NSW Government accepts the science of climate change and supports the Paris Agreement.

The NSW Government has set a net-zero goal by 2050, stating they are "committed to taking decisive and responsible action on climate change".

Opening more coal mines in a productive agricultural valley that has not before been subjected to mining is a contradiction to these policies. There no other way to see the impact of allowing this proposal than the wilful and conscious choice to create more carbon emissions.

There is no rationale to allow this proposal to go ahead. It is a contradiction of the NSW Governments' own policies.

The economic argument for more coal mines is also weak.

The NSW Treasury released the Inter-generational report that forecasts decreasing coal royalties as global demand decreases. They concluded that "global demand for coal is expected to weaken considerably", further noting that "Declining global demand for coal will reduce New South Wales' economic growth over the projection period and will have impacts both on employment and the fiscal outlook."

In the last months:

- The International Energy Agency, called for an immediate ban on new oil, coal and gas development
- The G7 agreed to end new government support for coal power by end of 2021
- Japan, Australia's largest thermal coal export destination, has pledged to achieve net zero carbon emissions by 2050. This will mean a drop of 46% of their use of coal.
- South Korea, another major importer of our thermal coal, has also pledged net zero by 2050. They will be reducing thermal coal consumption by around 19 million tonnes per annum.
- China, once our second biggest coal importer, has a clear plan to become self-sufficient for thermal coal. China is increasing domestic coal production and rail capacity with the intention of replacing imports.
- The recent IPCC report states unequivocally that humans are responsible for the observed warming of the atmosphere, lands and oceans. It has been called a 'code red for humanity'. From U.N. Secretary General Antonio Guterres: "This report must sound a death knell for coal and fossil fuels, before they destroy our planet."

The world is turning it's back on coal. This has only accelerated both locally and globally since the "Future of Coal Statement" was released in 2020. The premise for this "Future of Coal" is no longer valid and is increasingly out of step with current trends to tackle climate change and to be part of the global community.

To adhere to the NSW Governments net zero pledge, to address the accelerating causes and impacts of climate change, there is no valid argument to open Hawkins and Rumker for coal exploration and mining. Please stop this here and now. Do not recommend proceeding with this proposal.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 4:01:28 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 Thu, 12/08/2021 - 16:01

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

Otis

#### Last name

Burian Hodge

#### I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

## Info

#### Email

[REDACTED]

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

Newotnw 2042

#### Submission

12.08.2021

I am 24 years of age and have been visiting the area with my family 20 years

I am writing this to express that I'm against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal project. It saddens me deeply that with all the information we know about the rapid pace of climate change we are going against the current and want to start up new projects like this that will excrete the irreversible damage to our planet, whilst also destroying an area of NSW that is fairly untouched and extremely beautiful. With Covid-19 halting international travel and tourism we are left to explore our backyard when not in lock down. NSW has to offer some of the most beautiful countryside to offer and people want to experience 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 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 Creek<sup>16</sup> could be lost. The Swamp Grassland and Sphagnum Bog in the central part of Cops Creek is thoroughly unique<sup>16</sup> 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 in 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 region and economic stability.

Otis Burian Hodge

I agree to the above statement  
Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 2:43:02 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 14:43

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**

2074

**Submission**

Hawkins Rumker Proposed Coal Mining Exploration

Submission against the the proposed exploration

I oppose the opening up of the Hawkins Rumker area for coal mining exploration and coal mining.

The following are all reasons/evidence why Australian society has moved on and opening up areas for coal mining exploration or building new coal mines is unacceptable to the NSW and Australian public, including me:

1. Coal mining is one of the major ways Australia contributes to the release of Greenhouse gases into the atmosphere. It has been accepted by all recognised scientific institutions that the release of greenhouse gases is leading to global warming and is already starting to affect the climate not just through warming but through major weather events such as fire, flood and storms. The recent IPCC report released last week states this unequivocally. Australia has an obligation to the world to play its part in ending our contribution, particularly in circumstances where the economics of coal extraction are not in its favour. While this may not seem like a 'local' issue, the recent severe weather events in NSW are indicative of the fact that this is local. The 2019 bushfires are evidence of this.

2. The NSW Government's 2021 Intergenerational report forecasts decreasing royalties from thermal coal as international demand falls. This includes from our major coal customers being Japan and South Korea. So why are we building more mines if demand is falling?

3. The NSW Government has recognised that the community sentiment on carbon emissions has shifted and has set its own net-zero goal. Opening up new areas for coal mining exploration is in contradiction to this.

4. The Federal Court has recently found that the Government has a duty of care to not cause Australia's young people harm or injury from the release of carbon dioxide into the Earth's atmosphere, and that this duty of care had to be taken into account in decisions made in relation to the extension of an existing coal mine (see [https://www.lockthegate.org.au/court\\_s\\_ruling\\_is\\_a\\_victory\\_over\\_whitehaven\\_s\\_vickery\\_coal\\_mine\\_and\\_for\\_australian\\_children](https://www.lockthegate.org.au/court_s_ruling_is_a_victory_over_whitehaven_s_vickery_coal_mine_and_for_australian_children)). The common law has moved on, which is reflective of Australian society having moved on.

5. Major corporations and banks are clearly indicating that the ground has shifted on demand for coal and have stated they will be exiting coal investments shortly - ie. Macquarie Bank.

6. The G7 has agreed to end Government support for new coal power by the end of 2021. Australia is at risk of becoming a pariah state.

The bottom line is the economics of coal no longer add up, as the above points indicate, and the Australian population is no longer willing to allow its most precious resource - the environment and its children - to be exploited further.

Putting aside these wider arguments, and focusing for a moment on the local community of this region, the NSW Government's own position is that coal-reliant communities such as the Hunter will be given time to adapt. The Hawkins Rumker region is not a coal-reliant community! To have this policy in respect of regions that are coal mining, and then put forward proposals to explore and build new coal mines elsewhere is...absurd and plain dumb.

I strongly oppose any mining or mining exploration in this area.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 12:43:52 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

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Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 12:43

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Helen

**Last name**

Davies

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Newport

**Submission**

Dunns Ganguddy Ryalstone Coal mining is not wanted in this area.

This is a pristine water way and rare centuries old scenery to be valued. People visiting the area can enjoy immersing themselves in this beautiful clean soft drinkable water, picnicing and visitors come here from great distances. I am 79 years of age from Newport 2106 NSW and experienced the stand up paddle boarding last summer. Others were canoeing or swimming. I can only compare this unique environment to one I experienced in New Zealand north island with water from melting snow coming off Mt Ruepahu into the lake where we swam and caught trout.

Coal is becoming a commodity not supporting climate change..

PLEASE DONT DESTROY THIS ENVIRONMENT FOR US AND FUTURE GENERATIONS..

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 12:34:39 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 12:34

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**

Blackwall 2256

#### Submission

I am very strongly opposed to the NSW Government's possible release of the Hawker and Rumkin areas for coal exploration and just cannot understand why the state government is even considering such an irresponsible action and despoiling yet another beautiful region.

Even more importantly, Climate Change across the globe is already widespread, rapid and intensifying in every region and across all climates. The recently released report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change states that unless there are immediate, rapid and large-scale reductions in greenhouse gas emissions, limiting warming to close on 1.5°C or even 2°C will be beyond reach.

Opening up any more potential coal reserves to possible mining would be to ignore the hugely environmentally damaging effects of such a move. Burning an enormous volume of coal from yet another coal mine would produce incredibly detrimental volumes of extra carbon dioxide to add to the already worryingly and increasingly high volume of greenhouse gases the world is spewing out, and take the world closer to a very uncomfortable future.

We in NSW and indeed anywhere in the world must focus immediately on replacing our current reliance on all fossil fuels, with their disastrous and now well understood devastating impact on our warming climate, rather than adding yet another source of greenhouse gases. This is not something we can postpone any longer if we are going to leave a liveable world to our children and grandchildren. Already the youth of our world is clamouring for more serious climate action for the world they will inherit and have to live in.

It is almost criminal for our government to be permitting companies to invest in searching for more coal deposits when we should instead and only be encouraging investment into researching and developing renewable energy sources and businesses as fast as possible. Significant government incentives should be being offered to anyone willing to assist the country in steering away from the climate change precipice we are racing towards.

With the NSW Government advertising that they are hoping to achieve a 35% emissions reduction by 2030 over 2005 levels, it does not make any sense for them to be contemplating releasing another area for coal exploration and undoing all the climate good they are hoping to achieve.

There is no future in coal. Australia and its pathetic attitude to climate change are making this wonderful country a real pariah in the rest of the world. We and countless other Australians are ashamed of the way our governments are treating the future of humanity.

Think again NSW Government. Consider the future of the world! Abandon this land release.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 8:56:33 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

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Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 08:56

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Michael

**Last name**

Faulkner

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2450

**Submission**

With the release of the latest IPCC report in August 2021 it is ludicrous that there is an application to open up more land to mining fossil fuels. We need to stop this madness now. No new coal mines at all, anywhere. This means no new prospecting for coal.

Recently the courts determined Australian governments do have a duty of care to our children's future. Opening up such new areas for coal mining is not showing a duty of care.

Regards from Michael Faulkner

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 7:40:15 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

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Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 07:40

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Louise

**Last name**

Martucci

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Reservoir 3073

**Submission**

I love travelling to explore Rylstone and the Mudgee region in NSW. However there are significant problems with mining leases including the destruction of Aboriginal heritage sites and the opening of new coal mines that directly affect the odds with the NSW State governments net zero emissions goals, and far out of step with G7 and other global emissions targets.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 12/08/2021 6:36:06 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

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Submitted on Thu, 12/08/2021 - 06:36

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Mark

**Last name**

Thomas

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2034

**Submission**

The fact that the government is even considering new coal mines is absolutely mind blowing, the ipcc report came out not 2 days ago with a very stark warning that if we keep supporting new fossil fuel developments that we are going to destroy the world and society as we know it. Good economic planning. Then add the fact it's in a world heritage area or pretty much adds the the sheer incompetence of decision making. World heritage is there for our children and there children and the world should be too so no coal  
And save wild areas!

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 11:29:31 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 Wed, 11/08/2021 - 23:29

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Paradise

**Last name**

Laycock

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Elizabeth Bay

**Submission**

I am opposed to the proposed coal exploration of the Hawkins Rumker area. This is a precursor to coal mining, and must be stopped.

Having been a regular visitor to this beautiful, pristine area for the past 15 years, I'm shocked that it could be considered for coal exploration. The area has abundant natural assets - water catchments, wildlife and farmland - that will be far more valuable to our country, in the long term, than coal. Endangering these precious assets for a relatively short-term benefit - export dollars - is a grave mistake.

Loss of water - coal exploration contaminates and destroys waterways, even causing springs and bores to disappear. Coal mining itself uses extraordinary amounts of water. How will local communities, farms and wildlife fare with diminished water? Can you really expect they will not be impacted? And what about bushfires - will there be enough water to fight them, if coal mines are taking so much of this resource?

Endangerment of wildlife - many endangered species will be threatened, including birds, fish and mammals. Disturbed waterways will lead to a loss of fish habitat and fish species. Vulnerable bird species and declining woodland birds will be endangered. The release areas also contain a large number of records of the critically endangered spotted-tail quoll, which relies on habitats with intact old-growth forest in order to survive. Last but not least, this is an area that supports our treasured national icon, the koala. After already enduring such a huge loss of our koala population due to bushfires, we cannot consider spoiling any more of their habitat.

Farming - up to 32,700 ha of farmland could be lost to coal mines; farmland that sustains vineyards, olive groves, beef cattle and sheep. With food security now more important than ever, we need to protect this valuable land. We are entering a changing landscape of uncertain climate and unreliable supply chains: please don't endanger our food bowl. Farms and food are more valuable to Australians than coal mines.

I believe that the Hawkins Rumker area is of great long-term and strategic value to Australia, especially given its proximity to Sydney, and should not be tampered with for dubious short term gains.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 10:51:00 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 Wed, 11/08/2021 - 22:51

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

Fay

#### Last name

Walker

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

#### Email

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

Wollongong, 2500

#### Submission

Fay Walker,

Wollongong,  
NSW 2500

Director of Energy and Resources Policy  
 NSW Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
 Locked Bag 5022,  
 Parramatta, NSW 2124  
 Email: pria@planning.nsw.gov.au

10 August 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

Thank-you for the opportunity to comment on this significant proposal. I am a NSW citizen who finds the bush essential for my mental health, general enjoyment and the beautiful living creatures. Clean air and bush walking are on optional extras for me. They are essential to a happy, healthy life.

Significantly, my alarm at creating more options for coal mining is heightened by the release on 9th August 2021 of the 6th IPCC report. The IPCC report has a dire warning for the earth, people and all living flora and fauna if we don't cease all new coal exploration and mining, oil exploration and drilling, gas exploration drilling and fracking. Fossil fuel expansion must stop now. Carbon emissions, including methane, must reduce drastically— NOW. We are in a climate emergency.

1.1 NSW does not need any new coal mines or logging. Indeed, the new recently released IPCC report (August 2021) states that the world must get carbon emission down fast if we are to survive as a species. Australia already has sufficient coal mines until alternative resources such as solar, wind, batteries, hydro are implemented at the needed speed. Invest in the renewable economy not old. Great for environment, great for people and great for the future economy. Australia is already ranked 38/38 OECD countries on climate action commitment to reduce emissions.

1.2 Coal mining not only has a hugely detrimental effect on the world's climate but also on our air quality. It causes increased asthma events (I am one), lung disease and subsequently early deaths. This is a burden on our communities and health care system. Unnecessary suffering when alternatives are available that do not pollute the atmosphere or cause climate disasters.

1.3 There are 550,000 old coal mines in Australia that continue to pollute (Harter, 2021). Only 50 has been rehabilitated. Fossil fuel companies are not good citizens.

2. On the other hand beautiful environments such as Ferntree Gully in the middle of Rumker are priceless. They sequester carbon when not disturbed, provide for a variety of plant, animal and bird life. They are a joy for humans who visit. For all humans and animal/bird life these significant areas of undisturbed natural environment provide essential oxygen for life. Priceless.

3. In addition, Tomago Aluminium stated an intention to be 100% renewable by 2029. 'The company's chief executive, Matt Howell, told the Australian Financial Review the goal for the smelter near Newcastle was to be "for all intents and purposes 100% renewable" by 2029 (Cox, 11/8/2021). Other companies have already made commitments that they are implementing eg Telstra.

4. The IEA report (2021) states that we have to stop burning coal by 2030. This means no new coal mines or other fossil fuel projects to commence. Indeed, Australia needs to cut emissions 75% by 2035. A roadmap is supplied by Climate Works Australia.

That is, I object to any mines in this area. This area needs to be preserved as National Park. NSW needs to reduce carbon emissions and air pollution fast, thus reducing the impact of carbon emissions on our health outcomes (physical and mental) and the planet. So, I strongly object to any fossil fuel mining commercialisation of the Rumker area. This is now our opportunity to be accountable to our children, grandchildren, future generations and the planet because 'the decisions we make to-day will resonate for centuries or millennia' (Brian Bradshaw quoting from the IPCC report 2021).

Thank you again for the opportunity to comment. I look forward to hearing from you in regards to this submission.

Yours sincerely,  
 Fay Walker

References:

AR6 Climate Change 2021 – Sixth Assessment Report \_ IPCC. <http://www.ipcc.ch>

Simon Bradshaw (10/8/2021) Climate Council scientist speaking on the CANA hosted webinar discussing the IPCC report and implications.

Climate Council – various reports from 2019-2021. [www.climatecouncil.org.au](http://www.climatecouncil.org.au)

Climate Works Report (4/4/2020) Decarbonisation Futures: Solutions, action and benchmarks for a net zero emissions Australia. [www.climateworksaustralia.org](http://www.climateworksaustralia.org)

Lisa Cox (11/8/2021) Tomago, Australia's largest aluminium smelter, vows to switch to renewable energy by 2029. The Guardian.

Suzanne Harter (10/8/21) ACF scientist speaking on a CANA hosted webinar discussing the IPCC report and implications.

Report (2021) Net Zero by 2050. International Energy Agency. [www.iea.org/report/net-zero-by-2050](http://www.iea.org/report/net-zero-by-2050).

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 6:49:56 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 Wed, 11/08/2021 - 18:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Sol

**Last name**

Libesman

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2204

**Submission**

In the era of climate change I deep oppose this

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 3:57:05 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 Wed, 11/08/2021 - 15:57

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

David

**Last name**

Hay

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Cox's Creek

**Submission**

Hello,

My name is David Hay, I live in the small town of Cox's Creek in NSW central west and I am writing here today to plead my case for why I am opposed to the new coal developments of Hawkins/Rumker in the area.

First I will say as a realist, I doubt thoroughly that anyone with any influence will even read this submission, but I am compelled to make it on the off chance that there is still something resembling a democracy in this country.

Also, I understand the urge to sell all the coal we can before the whole world transitions away from it. It does bring in considerable revenue for the state and a few much needed regional jobs. But I argue that this is a false economy. If the costs of environmental damage are taken into account, any short term revenue would pale by comparison. What is the cost of a drained aquifer in a prime farming area? What is the dollar value of clean air and water? Who pays for mine rehabilitation?(1)

On a personal note, I don't want the mine because we (like many locals and farms) use the aquifer for our water supply and would be stuffed if it disappears or becomes tainted. Also, my brother has late stage emphysema and any air contamination could easily kill him at this stage. Who would cover the cost of those things? The mining companies? Or the state and fed? What is the dollar amount on my brother's last few remaining years?

Now for a more general argument, I'm sure the others who have made submissions have brought these things to light but what do you say about the IPCC latest report(2) which states: "There is no room for any new fossil fuel developments – if we're to avoid catastrophic warming."? If these mines go ahead and there is catastrophic climate change will you personally (yes you reading this!) take some responsibility for that? If so, how? If not, why not? What kind of punishment would be fair for ignoring scientific advice and in doing so, playing a part in causing a catastrophe?

Really, at this juncture in our history, where the science is telling us we are at a tipping point for our own species' existence, I feel like it is you who should be justifying to us why this should go ahead to me rather than the other way around, but here we are.

Not to mention the irreplaceable aboriginal heritage sites in the area nor the many and varied endangered species who call this area home(3).

My only small comfort is that if (when) things go pear-shaped and we soon end up in a mad max style dystopian wasteland, the people who got us there will be the first in the thunderdome. However, I would appreciate it if you could at least try to avoid that outcome.

Kind regards,  
David Hay

**References:**

- 1: <https://www.smh.com.au/environment/sustainability/hunter-coal-miners-don-t-have-enough-funds-for-land-rehabilitation-20210505-p57p4b.html>
- 2: <https://www.climatecouncil.org.au/resources/what-does-ipcc-latest-report-mean/>
- 3: <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2021-06-17/mudgee-coal-exploration-release/100218752>

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 3:23:06 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 Wed, 11/08/2021 - 15:23

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Emma

**Last name**

Bayliss

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2043

**Submission**

There is no need to build new coal mines near Mudgee. It is now cheaper to produce solar power per MWh compared to a coal fired station. The rapid global movement towards decarbonisation also sees any coal mines built in this area becoming obsolete soon after or even before they are completed.

Instead opportunities to establish renewable energy zones in the Mudgee and Rylstone should be prioritised rather than coal exploration.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 12:01:20 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Wed, 11/08/2021 - 12:01

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**

2850

**Submission**

You can't actually be serious!! With the IPCC's most recent report having just been released. We need to be planning to move away from using coal, NOT exploring for more.

I live here and I do not work in the coal industry. Moving mine and or exploration closer to our towns will destroy the area and all the community has worked for with regard to tourism. Not many people I know who enjoy the eyesore that is a coal mine.

I've never put a submission forward before, but this is not ok!! If it's not ok to have a solar farm on our doorstep, I'm really not sure that a filthy coal mine should be either.

Those working in the coal mining sector need to start thinking about life after coal, as do region's who rely on that as work.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 11/08/2021 10:06:42 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Wed, 11/08/2021 - 10:06

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**

2573

**Submission**

I oppose to the release of land for further coal exploration in the Hawkins and Rumker areas. Given the recent facts on climate change it is imperative that we do what we can to reduce our carbon emissions and coal is just not the way forward. We need to protect and preserve our natural landscape, aboriginal culture and the species that live in these areas. Having to write another submission opposing to coal exploration is very disappointing but I will continue to do so as it is necessary.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 10:02:29 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Tue, 10/08/2021 - 22:02

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**

Kandos 2848

**Submission**

I am against the proposed Hawkins Rumker coal exploration due to the negative impacts this will likely have on the local environment (air, water, land), and also tourism should this exploration lead to actual mining. Given the concerns in society about the adverse effects of climate change, I believe new coal mines should not now be developed.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 9:27:27 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 21:27

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Buff

**Last name**

Chubalino

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Bundall Qld 4217

**Submission**

Please do not approve or release the Hawkins and Rumker areas for coal exploration.

Enough damage has already been done to the environment.

Show initiative and provide work and energy via renewable energies.

To allow further raping of our flora and fauna, and erasing it for a coal mine is a disgraceful criminal act.

Don't be a disgraceful criminal, do the right thing and protect our environment.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 7:12:59 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 19:12

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Peter

**Last name**

Dagnia

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Hillarys 6025

**Submission**

It seems to me that the science on climate change is in and there is very little doubt that we need to act now to limit the damage to our planet. We can no longer be extracting fossil fuels (particularly from new sources) or cutting down any trees or other vegetation that are a store of carbon and provide habitat for our native animals. It is time for our government and politicians to take a stand and make the right long-term decisions in this regard and ban all new coal mining. I think that most people would like to leave the planet in a reasonable state for future generations.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 5:45:37 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 17:45

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Cheril

**Last name**

Moran

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Cessnock

**Submission**

This area is where my ancestors are from and some of immediate family live and have been buried. Our family visit this area to pay homage to our ancestors and to show our new generation where we come from and how important this area is to our family.

I do not agree to this being mined in anyway as it will destroy our heritage, sites, habitats four animals and destroy sacred sites.

I am a proud ancestor of the Dabee clan and please do not allow this destruction of this beautiful and important area.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 4:32:19 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

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

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**

2850

**Submission**

I do not want further coal exploration granted in the Mudgee region. I am unsure how that could possibly benefit the region. Exploration of renewable energies would be a much better idea.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 2:03:02 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Tue, 10/08/2021 - 14:03

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**

Sydney

**Submission**

It was only yesterday that the IPCC issued the most comprehensive climate report ever released and described it as a "code red for humanity". It is ridiculous opening up any areas for further coal exploration. It is even more inappropriate given that coal deposits in the Kelgoola-Ganguddy coal lease are high ash content, inefficient in energy quantity and highly polluting. It would be madness to consider coal mining on the western border of Wollemi National Park because of the high, conservation significance of Coricudgy State Forest, which was recommended for addition to wilderness in the original assessment by the Greater Blue Mountains Heritage Advisory Committee because of significant national wilderness qualities. Have we already forgotten the environmental impact of the bushfires which raged through this area? Please have regard to the threatened communities and species and to indigenous sites. Please let's see some common sense be injected into this process least a short-sighted political decision be made with long term consequences which we will all regret in the near future and which my children's generation will be saddled with for their lifetime.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 2:02:53 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 14:02

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

#### Submission Type

I am making a personal submission

## Name

#### First name

Daniela

#### Last name

Osiander

#### I would like my submission to remain confidential

No

## Info

#### Email

[REDACTED]

#### Suburb/Town & Postcode

Surry Hills 2010

#### Submission

As an experienced wildlife carer and simply extremely concerned citizen, I most strongly object to this proposal. Twenty years ago, after a career in tv including as a documentary producer, I moved to Australia specifically for its enviable biodiversity and wilderness areas.

These last twenty years have sadly seen the relatively careless, unabated and short-sighted destruction of so many Australian treasures and made Australia the leading country for recent mammal extinctions as well as a leading deforestation hotspot in the world. While this has caused me grave personal sense of loss and despondency, it is very much the larger issues at stake here which should guide these decisions, including National and state economic, human welfare and health considerations.

While there are multiple issues I could single out which should lead to a rejection of the proposal, let me focus on the two main ones:

1. The government should urgently accept best scientific advice that we have to quickly and massively reduce fossil fuel consumption, not open new mines! This proposal is completely out of line with for instance the latest clear advice by the International Energy Agency, an extremely reputable body in this space, clearly outlining the necessary milestones to avoid catastrophic damage to our climate in their recent report: "These include, from today, no investment in new fossil fuel supply projects, and no further final investment decisions for new unabated coal plants." (IEA International Energy Agency 2021, Net Zero. A roadmap for the energy sector, revised version July 2021 (3rd revision). Paris. Viewed 10/08/2021, <[https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/beceb956-0dcf-4d73-89fe-1310e3046d68/NetZeroBy2050-ARoadmapfortheGlobalEnergySector\\_CORR.pdf](https://iea.blob.core.windows.net/assets/beceb956-0dcf-4d73-89fe-1310e3046d68/NetZeroBy2050-ARoadmapfortheGlobalEnergySector_CORR.pdf)>)  
 This proposal is clearly in direct transgression of this advice.

2. The location specifically for this proposal is adjacent to a World Heritage listed area and covers an area that many rightfully want to see included in the World Heritage listing.  
 I strongly support its protection as an iconic and extremely valuable area for biodiversity, conservation and tourism, not least due to its proximity to our most population dense areas. These interests far outweigh both ideologically as well as economically the interests put forward in the mining proposal.

For these and many other reasons, I strongly object to this proposal.

Thank you very much for considering my submission.

Daniela Osiander  
 Surry Hills, August 2021

#### I agree to the above statement

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 1:38:11 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 13:38

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Paul

**Last name**

Sorensen

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

3160

**Submission**

Wow, the mind boggles. We are losing our flora and fauna at a furious rate, we're getting hotter and if you saw the news last night if we don't do something now we won't be able to come back. Coal and gas have no part in the solution to fix this huge mess. Enough is enough, pull your head out of your arses and start to listen to the experts.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 1:49:12 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

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Submitted on Tue, 10/08/2021 - 13:49

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Ameet

**Last name**

Agarwal

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2140

**Submission**

Please do not release any land for coal exploration. Value climate more than an commercial benefits.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 1:07:22 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

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Submitted on Tue, 10/08/2021 - 13:07

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Carmen

**Last name**

Denniss

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Dungog NSW

**Submission**

As a regular tourist of this area, I find the news of a proposed release of land outrageous when climate science, economics, and public opinion routinely rejects the notion of expanding the fossil fuel industry as being beneficial to the collective whole.

This area is useful for farming, tourism, and conservation, all of which are seen as key issues to Australia especially in a time where the importance of self-reliance as a country is greatly highlighted- why is land being released to support a dying industry when science has repeatedly shown that there are better alternative to coal and gas mining? Why will this land not continue to be used to support Australians and its native flora and fauna?

It's deeply disturbing to read that this is still being pursued when very few will actually realise its benefit.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 12:24:07 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 12:24

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Carol

**Last name**

Scantlebury

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Donnybrook, 6239

**Submission**

I have a number of concerns about opening the Hawkins & Rumker area for coal exploration. First and foremost is the recent release of the climate report alerting us to a code red situation for humanity and life on the planet if fossil fuels are not phased out as a source of fuel. It would be environmental sabotage to continue in the light of this report.

Another consideration is that of the World Heritage listed Wollemi National Park on the edge of the exploration area that is of high social and cultural value.

In the area designated are nearly 30 threatened species of flora and fauna as well as 45 recorded Aboriginal sites. There are nearly two thousand hectares of ground water at risk as well as over two hundred water channels and streams, half of which are classified as highly fragile.

The local considerations alone should be enough to halt the exploration of the Hawkins-Rumker area.

However, the recent climate report is the single most significant consideration. In phasing out fossil fuels there is a moral imperative to not mine any more coal. Life as we know it is already changing and to ignore the science is to put ourselves and all life on earth at risk.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes



**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 12:18:06 PM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Tue, 10/08/2021 - 12:18

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**

Cromer

**Submission**

I am opposed to further expansion of coal mining in this area. As a former landholder in the Mudgee district, I have witnessed the adverse effects of the expansion of mining in the Ulan area and do not want this replicated in these proposed areas, especially at a time where there is an aching need to reduce carbon emissions for the good of the planet. No more coal mines!

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 11:30:28 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 11:30

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Peter

**Last name**

Strong

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

2205

**Submission**

No destroying precious tree canopy for more future destroying coal mines

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 10:57:55 AM  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Webform submission from: Preliminary Regional Issues Assessment Hawkins Rumker

---

Submitted on Tue, 10/08/2021 - 10:57

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**

Darlinghurst

**Submission**

Coal exploration activities should not be considered in this region because:

- maintenance of primary productive agricultural land is essential for future resilience to increase in food demand and impacts of climate change.
- increased production of coal is not sustainable. The IPCC has just released its report into the risk of the world reaching 1.5 degrees of warming by 2030. We cannot be considering new coal mining operations. It is irresponsible of the NSW Government to be considering as such.

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 10:04:51 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 10:04

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

## Name

**First name**

Andrew

**Last name**

Hunter-Graham

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

## Info

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Camberwell, 3124

**Submission**

The IPCC has released yet another publication, warning of the impending dangers of Climate Change.

We can not ignore the reality and the science, not without failing our future, the future of generations to come and the future of our planet, the only home we know.

Already we are feeling the impacts of more severe weather and fire events, yes we are resilient but as the situation gets worse in the coming years, that resilience will begin to fail, just as it has been tested by a global pandemic.

We as humans can only cope for so long in the midst of environmental and life-changing climate events. We are not invincible, we need a healthy planet to sustain our lives and future generations.

Humankind has lived on this planet for ages, thousands and thousands of years... Sometimes it's hard to comprehend the long history, but we have all learnt of the ages before our own.

Presently we are looking at changes to our environment that will make sustaining human and other life an ever-growing challenge, increasingly it will become impossible as those changes impact major populations in cities.

The weight of our inaction will finally break our ability to cope and in the not too distant future, our ability to live.

We are all on this planet together, our futures are on this planet together and so is our history once we are no longer... But history is only history if future generations are able to live and look back upon it.

Individually we can do our bit to ensure we tackle the issues that put at risk that future.

Coal exploration, mining, export and burning is not in the best interest of the future.

A decision in favour of any fossil fuel is a direct contribution to climate change and an attack on our future as humans.

It's all too easy to focus on the now and forget that without a future what is the point of now?

As a 26-year-old, I have serious doubts about the future, for no reason other than the climate and the environment of our planet beginning to fail and become unliveable.

There is no one else to blame other than us, there are no external factors. As humans, we are failing ourselves...

We are smarter than that!

I really hope that with encouragement the Hawkins and Rumker areas are not released for coal exploration, please consider renewable energy production and export opportunities that support our future.

Warm regards,

Andrew

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 10/08/2021 9:33:42 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 Tue, 10/08/2021 - 09:33

Submitted by: Anonymous

Submitted values are:

**Submission Type**

I am making a personal submission

**Name**

**First name**

Daniel

**Last name**

Frawley

**I would like my submission to remain confidential**

No

**Info**

**Email**

[REDACTED]

**Suburb/Town & Postcode**

Portland

**Submission**

To whom it may concern.

I hereby would like to express my concerns for this new proposal for mining in the Hawker and Rumker local areas.

First of all these areas are beautiful areas of natural beauty and history. The Indigenous history throughout this area is very rich and there are many areas of sacred value for the local Indigenous groups.

The natural environment that we have throughout this area including the greater Blue Mountains and the Great Dividing Range is some of the only remaining 1.5 percent of natural environment left untouched in the world.

I personally am honoured to call these areas home and my workplace. I work in conservation and eco tourism and the mining of these areas will have massive consequences for not only in my area of work, but the environment and local communities.

The potential for contamination is very high both through airborne and the waterways.

Just recently the areas of Hawker, Rumker and the Blue Mountains have finally started to present the natural regrowth and regeneration process taking place after the 2019/20 bushfires. Also since the bushfires there has been many species of native flora and fauna rediscovered and coming back into these areas.

Your proposal of mining in this area could and will very quickly put an end to all of this.

Tourism side of things. The Blue Mountains area and Mudgee have become areas of increasing eco-and natural history tourism that provides millions of dollars and employment opportunities for the local communities. Such mining operations as proposed would all but cease tourism in the local area. Not only is Mudgee an area of natural beauty, also the area has also become one of the main wine producers not only here in Australia but world wide. The contamination into waterways from this mining would once again put a very quick stop to this.

Now I understand coal when used properly can be an excellent source of renewable energy, is very cheap, and we have an endless supply of coal available to use. However, the techniques used for the extraction of this source poses to many threats to both us as humans and the natural environment. Also we have many other sources of renewable energy like water sun and wind that would be far better worth spending money on and does not pose the threats of coal mining.

Please consider not only my concerns but others too regarding the want and need to safe guard and retain our areas of natural beauty and history. The health and wellbeing of the environment that we live in is integral to the health and wellbeing of us humans.

As mentioned above in these areas for the proposed mining is some of the only 1.5 percent of untouched and natural environment left in the world. Please let's keep it this way....

**I agree to the above statement**

Yes