## **Hawkesbury Environment Network Inc.**



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Mining and Industry Projects NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure GPO Box 39 Sydney 2001.

Reference: Coalpac Consolidation Project: Application Number 10 0178.

We wish to lodge our objection to the above proposal which, if approved, will impact significantly on the outstanding natural features of this region.

The proposal will raze eight hundred and forty three hectares of the Ben Bullen State Forest in the Gardens of Stone Reserve Proposal. The risk to the magnificent Pagoda rock formations in the region from mining operations is very real. Such a proposal would destroy approximately twenty thousand vulnerable *Eucalyptus cannonii* and some considerable area of critically endangered Box Gum Woodland.

The area covered by the proposal has an extensive collection of native plants numbering in the hundreds and is habitat to thirty five recorded mammal species with at least twelve formerly listed as threatened.

Further, the proposal would have a detrimental impact on the adjacent Greater Blue Mountains World Heritage Area and the Gardens of Stone reserve proposal.

We do not believe that attempts to rehabilitate the natural environment containing such high conservation value following the proposed mining activities could restore the biodiversity to its original status.

The proposal will considerably add truck and machinery movement as well as increace Australia's carbon emissions and release dust and fine particles into the atmosphere likely affecting the township of Cullen Bullen.

The Hawkesbury Environment Network fully supports the New South Wales Parks and Wildlife Service's proposal to include the Ben Bullen State Forest to the Conservation reserve System.

Yours faithfully,

Glenn Vickery

Hon. Secretary, for and on behalf of the Hawkesbury Environment Network Inc.

May 3<sup>rd</sup> 2012.

Department of Planning
Foreigned
8 MAY 2012
Scanning Room