

Canopy Native Forest Committee  
Total Environment Centre of NSW  
Suite 2, Level 1  
89 Jones Street  
Ultimo NSW 2007

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

**Submission on the Coalpac Consolidation Project: Application No: 10\_0178**

Dear Sir/Madam

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission on this important matter.

I am writing on behalf of the Canopy Native Forest Committee of the Total Environment Centre of NSW, a voluntary organisation concerned with the protection of our native forests and wildlife from damaging and inappropriate activities.

This Committee wishes to express its strong opposition to the current proposal as it is expected to have substantial adverse environmental impacts.

The project requires the clearing of 843 hectares of publicly owned native forest including the destruction of 19,200 vulnerable *Eucalyptus cannonii* trees and 50 hectares of critically endangered Box Gum Woodland. The area is habitat for 500 plant species and 35 mammal species, 15 of which are threatened.

The loss of these significant natural values is an unacceptably high price to pay for a resource that is widely available elsewhere.

It is unlikely that the original biodiversity of the site can be fully restored after an impact as dramatic as open cut mining.

In addition, the proposal to mine sideways into the coal seams under rare pagoda rock formations carries a high risk of damaging these sensitive features for the sake of less than 3 per cent of the resource.

The amount of coal extracted by this project has the potential to add to this nation's already high total carbon emissions by 1.3 per cent.

Further, the possible impact on nearby residents of the town of Cullen Bullen of fine particles generated by the mine is a matter of grave concern.

For these reasons, Canopy calls on the government to totally reject the proposed Coalpac mine.

Instead, the Ben Bullen State Forest should be added to the conservation reserve system as proposed by environmental groups in the Gardens of Stone Stage 2 Reserve Proposal.

Yours faithfully

Graham Daly  
Chairperson  
31/05/11