

In regards to the Integrated Mining Policy:-

There are a number of matters missing from the standard assessment requirements, notably cumulative impacts, matters of national environmental significance, any detail on social impact guidelines and any mention of greenhouse gases. It is requested that each project conducts a cumulative impact assessment. This includes impacts on bushland, rivers and other waterways, aquifers, air and water quality, social aspects and community;

The NSW Government needs to deliver promised new rigorous assessment guidelines for economic assessments and social impact assessments, and heed long-standing community calls for health impacts to be a mandatory consideration in coal mine assessments;

Economic benefits are not as important as the impacts on the Environment and the Community. Any economic benefit is short term in contrast to the long term effects to the Environment and Community.

Community consultation needs to be more extensive and boundaries of target suburbs broaden as impacts involve not just pit tops and surface operations but licence discharge points, watercourses rail and road corridors. Every attempt needs to be made to communicate with the affected communities through the local community groups such as Progress Associations and Sustainable Neighbourhood Groups regardless of the role of the CCC;

Approvals that have been live should have all components acted on within a two year period, as environmental law and conditions are evolving. If components are not acted on in this two year period, a new application needs to be lodged and fully reassessed;

Coastal upland swamps are unique, with *in situ* irreplaceable environmental values and impacts on them must be avoided at all costs. Policy should include the impacts of discharges from mining operations and include coastal wetlands and estuaries as in Lake Macquarie;

Every EIS needs to have a dedicate management plan for feral animals not just weeds;

Independently accredit specialist experts who contribute to all mining environmental assessments need to ensure that each expert report is peer reviewed.