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Online Submission

Mar 2 (43 days ago)

To:

Apart from my general interest in the Hunter Region I have been a land owner in the Western Hunter Area for 36 years.

The reliance on the existing coal mine operations and the acceptance of the development of future coal mines is disappointing. Given all the other attributes and productiveness of the Hunter Valley it would be good to see much more promotion of electricity production through alternative energy sources.

Coal extraction is not only endangering the health of those living in the Hunter but also impacting on the many other major industries that are given recognition in the Report. Particularly, viticulture, equine and other agricultural activity, as well as natural assets.

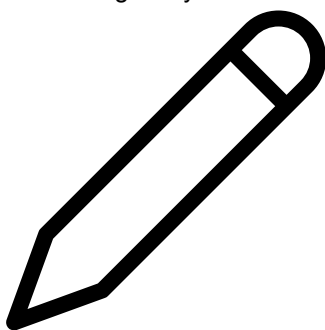
To be of value as a long term Plan, this draft needs to move beyond reliance on coal and strongly promote the other productive industries in the Hunter.

Alternative energy production through solar and wind production should be included as a primary objective of the Plan.

The use of "offsets" needs to be much more tightly defined. It must insist on "like for like".

The existence of the Ramsar sites within the Region should be clearly acknowledged and included, not only in the text, but also in the relevant maps.

Habitat protection for migratory birds should also be clearly mentioned and afforded appropriate protection.



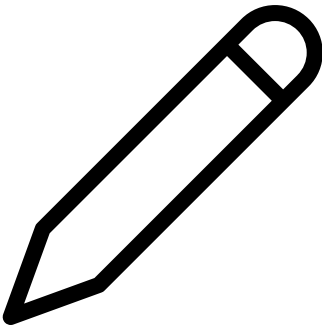
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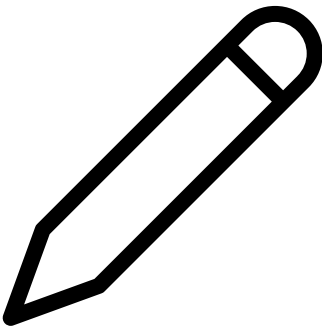
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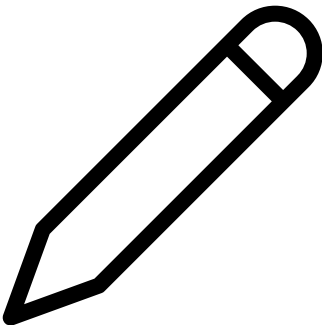
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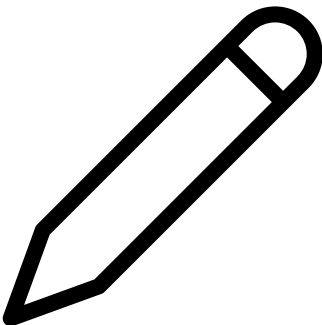
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