



# Lithgow Environment Group Inc.

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*Preserving the Balance of Nature*

To  
The Independent Planning Commission

**Ref.: Moolarben Coal Complex OC3 Extension Project**

Lithgow, 16 February 2026

Lithgow Environment Group has been advocating environmental issues since 2005 and we welcome the opportunity to contribute to the above inquiry. We are a member of the Central West Environment Council (CWEC) and as such are concerned about environmental issues in the greater Central West.

**We are opposed to the proposed mine extension for the following reasons:**

We consider the proposed “off-site habitat enhancement” as ‘Greenwash’ and an afterthought in the application process. It will do nothing to reverse the total destruction of the environment by open cut mining locally and the destruction of our climate from burning the coal globally.

The NSW Government has officially committed to reducing emissions with the introduction of the NSW Climate Change Act 2023. This proposal contravenes that act.

The expansion comes too close to Munghorn Gap Nature Reserve which should be protected and enhanced instead of being compromised by an open cut mining operation next to it.

The clearing of 480ha of native vegetation is too much a price to justify a few jobs, royalties and profits for the Yancoal corporation. There is no economy without an environment.

Water, the most precious resource in our drying continent will be compromised. Both surface and underground water will be affected and vital riparian environments lost.

We urge the Independent Planning Commission to recommend that the Moolarben OC3 Coal Mining Extension Project be refused.

Thank you  
Thomas Ebersoll  
Secretary LEG