

Submission to IEPMC (personal details redacted)

Dear Panel,

NSW Chief Scientist has stated that our catchment is the only drinking water area in the world in which coal mining is allowed.

I find this extraordinary that as a country, our leaders cannot act responsibly to protect the future generations precious water supply.

It is not a resource that we can gamble - we have a duty to subsequent generations not to take the risk of mining in these vulnerable zones - other first world countries have the common sense, intelligence and leadership to protect precious resources for future generations.

It is unbelievable that we are even having these debates - there can never be a 100% guarantee that the water catchment areas will not be contaminated. The signs and evidence of contamination are already here and have been for several years.

The Guardian (13/11/18) reported that Australia is the only country in the world projected to significantly increase coal production in the future. This is astonishing.

We do not own these catchment areas for business and government's profit - these areas are publicly owned and we, the public object to this foolish risk taking and urge that it ceases.

Yours faithfully,
Susan Benham