

Submission on the additional information to the environmental impact statement (EIS)—Carmichael Coal Mine and Rail Project

Submissions close at **5pm on Friday 20 December 2013**

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Section of additional information to EIS	Describe the issue	Suggested solution
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Complete, print and sign this form and send it to one of the following:

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Post The Coordinator-General
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Note: Under section 1570 of the SDPWO Act, it is an offence to give the Coordinator-General a document that contains information known to be false or misleading.

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08 - Greenhouse Gas Emissions	<p>If the proposed project is allowed to proceed, there will be huge emissions of greenhouse gases and that will doom our planet to being uninhabitable. The greenhouse gases from the proposed project will arise from:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. destruction of plants and animals during clearing of the sites 2. disturbing the soil 3. disturbing and extracting the coal 4. mining, processing and transporting the coal 5. burning the coal <p>While most of these emissions will be carbon dioxide, the main cause of climate change and ocean acidification that is already underway, disturbing and extracting underground coal will release methane, a greenhouse gas more potent than carbon dioxide.</p> <p>Continued growth in greenhouse gas emissions increases the real, catastrophic risks for all countries (including Australia and India), businesses and people. It is in everyone's interests to contribute to action to limit the increase in global average temperature compared with pre-industrial levels.</p> <p>There is mounting evidence that even our current target of 2°C warming will be catastrophic – and we are currently heading for 4°C warming. Even with the 0.8 °C warming we have to date:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ we are already experiencing dramatic environmental changes and associated social and economic costs. These include ocean acidification (and we are very close to the level at which marine ecosystems collapse); shifting rainfall and temperature patterns; more intense storms, droughts, and heatwaves; and greater bushfire risks. These in turn are posing substantial risks to water and food supplies, health, property, infrastructure, and natural ecosystems – and those risks are being increasingly realised. ▪ positive feedback loops previously unknown are becoming evident (even at 0.8oC) and increase the likelihood of runaway climate change. <p>Mining and using even more fossil fuels such as coal will only worsen the situation. To have the best chance of ensuring a habitable planet, we need to minimise the risk associated with any level of climate change and work for a 100% chance of survival (or as close as we can get it, given the inertia we have already built into global warming and ocean acidification).</p>	<p>Stop mining coal. That is, do not proceed with the proposed project. (The Environmental Management Plan that has been developed and which is ‘aimed to avoid and reduce greenhouse gas emissions...’ does not deal with the threshold issue : at the end of the day, about generating greenhouse gas emissions. There is no way to completely avoid or mitigate the greenhouse gas emissions of such a project, and offsets can never be 100% guaranteed to immediately reverse those emissions as they occur.)</p> <p>If the proponent wants to supply energy to India then a project to supply renewable energy would do the job without making a substantial contribution to catastrophic climate change.</p>

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03 - Climate, Natural Hazards and Climate Change	<p>Although this section briefly mentions climate change and some forecast impacts and possible mitigation measures for the sites, it does not cover the broader impacts. The broader impacts include catastrophic, runaway climate change, which is looking increasingly likely and which will render planet Earth uninhabitable. At this stage we do not have another habitable planet to which we can move.</p> <p>The section also fails to factor climate change into the proposed measures to deal with natural hazards : it is no longer prudent or reliable to use historic records (eg 1 in 100 year flood levels) because, with climate change, we are now in uncharted territory.</p> <p>The Proponent claims that it will prepare an Emergency Response Plan (ERP) for construction, operations and decommissioning phase, which will incorporate the requirements for workplace health and safety, community and environmental hazard management. Given the hazards that are arising from climate change, Emergency Response Plans that factor in climate change impacts need to be in place before a project is assessed.</p>	<p>Stop mining coal. That is, do not proceed with the proposed project. Factor in climate change impacts (worst case scenario) into all forward planning, including hazard reduction and mitigation plans and emergency response plans.</p>

If there is insufficient space in the table above, please attach additional pages.

Signature:(signed) G M King.....(A submission by more than one person must be signed by *each* submitter.)