

Submission to IEPMC (personal details redacted)

I write to express my concern about further mining damaging the Sydney's Water Catchment Area. I thank you for the opportunity to express my views. There is already considerable evidence of damage caused by longwall mining, in particular cracking of rocks, loss of water in creeks and drying of upland swamps. Application of the precautionary principle should preclude any new mining within the catchment areas. The cumulative impact of existing mining activity is already not well understood. Any new mines can only increase the risk of further loss of surface water and permanent damage to the catchment integrity. In the face of the growth in population of Greater Sydney and the projected reduction in rainfall due to climate change, the quantity and quality of the water supply is more valuable than any other resource. The desalination plant is an expensive alternative. The risks to the Sydney Water Catchment, as outlined in the Independent Expert Panel for Mining in the Catchment, are unacceptable to me.

Yours sincerely

Jill Green