

The Hawkesbury Environment Network would like to comment:

Mining causes permanent damage to water catchments. HEN believes there should be no coal mining or sand extraction in the Sydney catchment.

(Sand extraction from the Hawkesbury lowlands is our particular concern currently but we are equally concerned about coal)

Water loss as well as environmental damage will occur through mining. HEN hopes that you will recommend a ban on coal mining in all the Special Areas and in the greater Sydney region. HEN understands that this catchment is the only publically owned water in the world where coal mining is allowed. The risks to the catchment as outlined in the Independent Expert Panel for Mining in the Catchment are unacceptable to HEN.