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The Manager Titles Assessment
Department of Minerals, Energy and Geosciences
PO Box 344
Hunter Region Mail Centre NSW 2310

resource.operations@planning.nsw.gov.au

Thursday 24 February 2022

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Objection to application for operational release: Wilpinjong Coal Pty Ltd
Exploration Licence Application No: 6415**

Central West Environment Council (CWEC) is an umbrella organization representing conservation groups and individuals in central west NSW working to protect the local environment for future generations.

CWEC objects to the application for new coal release in the Wollar area through ELA 6415 for the following reasons:

1. Three of the four goals of the draft Central West Orana Regional Plan 2041 would not be met. These are:

- a diverse regional economy;
- stronger healthier environment and diverse heritage;
- and dynamic and vibrant communities

2. The Wollar area is near the Central West Renewable Energy Zone:

- The Wollar Solar Farm was approved in 2020 and has commenced construction
- A new Goulburn River Solar Farm proposal is being developed to the east of the proposed ELA area.

3. The release of new coal for exploration and mining in NSW is counter to the NSW Government emission targets.

4. The cumulative impacts on the local community, biodiversity, cultural heritage and greenhouse gas emissions from coal mining activities are already too great. Further exploration for coal in the region cannot be justified.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Cilla Kinross", on a light-colored rectangular background.

Cilla Kinross
President