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Sent: Friday, 2 January 2009 4:57 PM  
To: Hon Carmel Tebbutt (dp.office@tebutt.minister.nsw.gov.au)  
Cc: Hon Ian Macdonald MLC (macdonald.office@macdonald.minister.nsw.gov.au); Hon Jodi McKay MP (newcastle@parliament.nsw.gov.au); Hon Christina Keneally (office@keneally.minister.nsw.gov.au); Craig Baumann MP (portstephens@parliament.nsw.gov.au); Neville Deuis (neville@portstephens.org.au); Bob Westbury (bobwestbury@bigpond.com); Clr Bruce Mackenzie (bruce.mackenzie@portstephens.nsw.gov.au); Clr Daniel Maher (daniel.maher@portstephens.nsw.gov.au); Clr Frank Ward (fdward@bigpond.net.au); Clr Geoff Dingle (gedtrain@internode.on.net); Clr Glenys Francis (glenysfrancis@ozemail.com.au); Clr John Nell (ja.nell@bigpond.com); Clr Ken Jordan (ken.jordan@portstephens.nsw.gov.au); Clr Peter Kafer (peter.kafer@portstephens.nsw.gov.au); Clr Sally Dover (sallyd@nelsonbay.com); Clr Shirley O'Brien (shirley.obrien@portstephens.nsw.gov.au); Cr. Steve Tucker steve.tucker@portstephens.nsw.gov.au)  
**Subject: Duralie Mine Waste Water**



The Hon Carmel Tebbutt MP  
Minister for Climate Change and the Environment  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney 2001

2 January 2009

Dear Minister

**Re: Duralie Open Cut Coal Mine – Stroud Road**

I am writing to you on behalf of the residents and ratepayers of the Tomaree Peninsula on Port Stephens. The Port Stephens tourist destination is marketed under the banner “The Blue Water Paradise”. This pristine marine environment with its Marine Parks and abundant dolphin population is the core resource for our major industry - tourism and is and the main reason why people reside here. It's cleanliness is also crucial to our nationally important oyster industry .

Port Stephens is subject to major discharges from the Karuah River and we understand the Duralie Coal Company has applied for a variation of their environmental protection licence to discharge excess waste water from their holding dams into the Mammy Johnson's River, a tributary of the Karuah River.

We are aware that earlier consultations across the Karuah and Port Stephens catchment strongly rejected any discharges from the mine and that its licence was granted on the condition that there would be no release of such water.

Major flood events bring huge flows of run-off water into Port Stephens. We are seriously concerned that these inflows could have a devastating impact on the water quality in the feeder rivers, the Karuah River and Port Stephens if the coal mine's waste water is discharged from its holding dams.

We urge you as the Minister responsible for the protection of our outstanding marine environment to take action to head off a potential disaster for the Port Stephens Marine Park, its dolphins and the oyster and tourist industries.

Robert Young  
Chairperson  
Tomaree Ratepayers and Residents Association