



Instructions for gathering petition signatures

To meet the requirements of the NSW Parliament, a petition must be on paper.

Specific requirements include:

- The name and address must be clear and legible.
- The address **MUST** include a postcode.
- The name and address must be printed.
- Full first and last names must be used. i.e. Frank Smith, NOT F. Smith
- The signatures must be collected on the original printed page.
- The petition page should not be photocopied, scanned or altered in any way.
- A maximum of 10 signatures can be collected per page, so if you collect more than 10 signatures you will need to print another page.
- Please return the signed petition page(s) by regular mail to:

Sutherland Environment Centre

PO BOX 589,

Sutherland 1499, NSW, Australia

Petition to the Hon. The Speaker and Members of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales

This Petition of residents of Southern Sydney and the Greater Sydney region brings to the attention of the House the risk that longwall coal mining under Woronora Dam brings to our water supply. We have a right to expect a clean and secure water supply, unpolluted by contaminants. The government is required under the Water NSW Act 2014 to ensure this.

Metropolitan's longwall mines have already caused serious damage to the Woronora Dam catchment area – WaterNSW's submission to the Independent Report into Mining in the Catchment notes the detrimental impact Metropolitan's longwall mines 23-27 have had on the Eastern Tributary of the Waratah Rivulet, with 'Unexpectedly high levels of surface cracking (along the creek and at pool / rockbars) and consequent drying of a large proportion of pools.' (p.B4) Two swamps that filter and clean our water have also shown signs of drying out – with groundwater levels 'not having recovered many years after completion of mining.' (p.B5)

Further damage has occurred at the main part of the Rivulet, with riverbeds seriously fractured and pools completely drained.

WaterNSW note mining in this area has resulted in 'environmental consequences [that] have caused (or are likely to cause) breaches in conditions in the relevant development consents, including performance criteria to protect watercourses and Sydney's drinking water catchment'; and, there are 'numerous deficiencies in the manner that analysis and modelling is currently being used to support mining applications.' (p.1, p.7)

The area around Woronora catchment is a 'Special Area' – so protected that people are not even allowed to walk in there – fines for doing so can be up to \$44,000. Metropolitan longwall mines LW20-27 in this same catchment area have already caused significant and unacceptable damage.

Metropolitan's current proposal **to mine under the dam itself** - LWs 303-317 - poses a far more aggressive threat.

WaterNSW notes 'there is a high level of uncertainty about the likely success of future remediation efforts in both watercourses and swamps.' (p.5) Injecting polyurethane into cracks to 'remediate' damage that has already been caused, and may be caused in the future is not an acceptable solution.

The undersigned petitioners therefore ask the Legislative Assembly to stop further threats to our water supply and rescind the development consents that permit mining in this area.

Name (first and last name required)	Address (full address including postcode required)	Signature (required)
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* Please return to Sutherland Environment Centre PO BOX 589, Sutherland 1499, NSW, Australia