

Our ref: R18/0006#1 Out- SUB 657  
Further contact: Denise Anderson

15 December 2020

Stephen O'Connor  
Chair of IPC Panel  
Office of the Independent Planning Commission NSW  
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street  
SYDNEY NSW 2000

Dear Mr O'Connor

### **Dendrobium Extension Project (SSD 8194)**

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) welcomes the opportunity to provide a submission to the Independent Planning Commission on the Dendrobium Extension Project.

Local Government NSW (LGNSW) is the peak body for local government in NSW, representing all NSW general purpose councils and related entities. LGNSW facilitates the development of an effective community based system of local government in the State.

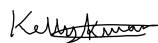
At our recent 2020 Annual Conference, the following motion was put forward by the City of Sydney and adopted by the Conference. *That Local Government NSW:*

- (i) opposes the approval of long-wall coal mines under Sydney's drinking catchments;*
- (ii) lobbies the NSW Government against the issue of long-wall mining approvals under Woronora reservoir, and other mines which have the potential to risk contaminating Sydney's drinking water supply; and*
- (iii) opposes the approval of any mines which have the potential to contaminate drinking water supply of any community in NSW.*

Mining activities under Sydney's drinking water catchments could compromise the integrity of the water storages, potentially leading to leakages, and flow on environmental damage to the surrounding water table and the quality of drinking water supplies as was found by the Independent Expert Panel for Mining in the Catchment (IEPMC). The full impacts of these underground mining operations will not be known for several decades, and changes in the geological structures below the dam and in the catchment could continue well after the final coal has been extracted from the site. Mining operations, including abandoned mines, in the Schedule 1 Special Areas of the Sydney Drinking Water Catchment remain an indefinite threat of contamination to Sydney's water supply.

For further information in relation to this submission, please contact Denise Anderson, Senior Policy Officer - Environment on 02 9242 4056 or [denise.anderson@lgnsw.org.au](mailto:denise.anderson@lgnsw.org.au).

Yours sincerely



**Kelly Kwan**  
**Executive Manager, Advocacy**