

**Submission
No 107**

**INQUIRY INTO PERFORMANCE OF THE NSW
ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

Name: Ms Diane Montague

Date received: 28/08/2014

Dear Sir/Madam,

When it is left to the community to police the breaches committed by coal companies and extraction industries then it is obvious that there is a problem.

This fact was verified by public officials from the Dept. of Planning. The conditions placed on companies is, not only, not rigorous enough to protect our environment, but lacks any policing.

When a community member does complain to the EPA about a breach of conditions from a mine there is no follow up. Over years complaints are not addressed.

When the multi million dollar company does get issued with a fine the amount is ludicrous.

It is time that the NSW Govt. was held accountable for its disgraceful record on environmental protection.

The community need an independent body to police the activities of companies with little regard for the environment.

The EPA needs to be resourced adequately and have the public interest as its focus not big business.

Yours sincerely,
Dianne Montague