

**Submission  
No 27**

**INQUIRY INTO COSTS FOR REMEDIATION OF SITES  
CONTAINING COAL ASH REPOSITORIES**

**Name:** Bruce Derkenne  
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I'm a long time resident of Lake Macquarie having lived at Belmont, Swansea, Cardiff and now Wangi Wangi.

I've enjoyed all that the lake has had to offer in terms of recreation (sailing, swimming and kayaking), food (fish, prawns and blue swimmer crabs) and natural beauty.

There is no doubt that the power stations around the lake have powered the economic growth we have experienced in NSW but in regards to the toxic legacy of the coal-ash dams it is difficult for me to say anything other than it is environmental vandalism to have constructed them without linings and adjacent to our beautiful, natural waterway of Lake Macquarie.

To prolong the life of the coal-ash dams is another act of environmental vandalism so I ask that measures be taken as follows:

1. Tendering for organisation's to process (brick and ceramic firing), recycling and remediation of the dam sites ASAP.
2. Strict air pollution control measures such as water spraying and capping be taken to stop wind blow coal-ash dust being blown over surrounding suburbs.
3. Placement of 5 air monitors in the surrounding area that have real time monitoring that is available to the public.
4. A "just transition plan" that begins now with the view to close the Eraring Power Station in 2032 or even sooner.

It is important that the employees in this industry be given as much support as necessary to transfer into new industries that add wealth and prosperity to our great state just as the power stations did all those years ago.

Thank you  
Bruce Derkenne  
Wangi Wangi NSW