

**Submission  
No 31**

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

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**Date Received:** 13 February 2020

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Dear Committee Members

As ex-Sydneysiders, Anna and I moved to a leafy Newcastle suburb, equidistant, Lake Macquarie and the superb beaches here, 35 years ago. Lake Macquarie is the largest salt water lake in the world, and a treat for the eyes.

We could not be better placed to be part of the natural wonder of 'Australia, in an urban world.

I cannot believe more care is not taken of the immensely toxic effects of fossil, when people are known to be fine blendings of chemicals, in a very polluted world, despite the avalanche of environment protect of the last 50 plus years..

Part of the reason for this submission is to provide a framework in which to make considerations.

Also, there is a trend to cut corners now, which would not be the case, if people were properly informed.

We do not use our lounge rooms as a toilet, so we are not to use Earth as a wasteland, of truly grim material.

So yes,the NSW EPA must amend the Eraring (EPL 1429) and Vales Point (EPL 761) EPLs so that the maximum concentrations limits for water discharge are in line with the ANZECC (2000) guidelines

The NSW Government must commit to decontaminating the Vales Point and Eraring power station sites

The NSW Government must ensure there are adequate funds set aside to decontaminate the sites comprehensively

The NSW Government must carry out feasibility examination into the environmentally responsible reuse of coal ash, with an aim of setting up a pilot plant so that Lake Macquarie's coal-ash sites may be returned to vital wetlands habitat in the future.

We now have vast accumulated knowledge of the vital role the wholeness of nature plays, which cannot be improved on. Without knowledge, 300 years ago civilisation embarked on "powered" in a way that now requires all to really step up.

Talk about forces overtaking us.

Yours sincerely

Graeme Tychsen