

**Submission
No 54**

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

Name: Lynn Benn
Date Received: 15 February 2020

I live a short drive from the lake and consider it a wonderful amenity which I often visit. I am concerned that the lake has become badly polluted by heavy metals. These are a danger to the wildlife and us if we consume fish from the lake. It is disgraceful that this situation has been allowed to develop. This loss of amenity affects locals, local visitors from Newcastle and the valley and tourists.

I want the NSW Government to commit to decontaminating the Vales Point and Eraring power station sites and ensure there are adequate funds set aside to decontaminate the sites comprehensively

I want the NSW EPA to 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 to limit further damage.

I want the NSW Government to carry out a feasibility study 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 wetlands habitat in the future. This could substantially reduce the costs of remediation.

Thank you for your attention

Lynn Benn