

Submission  
No 22

**INQUIRY INTO PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT  
OPERATIONS AMENDMENT (CLEAN AIR) BILL 2021**

**Organisation:** Kariang Progress Association

**Date Received:** 30 June 2021

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Kariong Progress Association opposes the extension of the licence to Vales Point Power Station.

We oppose it because it is being allowed to pollute at unacceptable and unsafe levels.

We are concerned about the impact that the air pollution has on community health – especially the incidence of asthma among children in the Lake Macquarie and Central Coast region.

Emissions limits that apply to the NSW coal fired power stations must be reduced to force the power stations to install best practice pollution reduction technologies.

No coal fired power station should be exempt from the standards proposed in the Clean Air Bill.

Shouldn't we be able to expect at least as good levels of air quality as the EU, Japan and South Korea? Why are we letting Vales Point Power Station pollute at around 10 times the acceptable standard in these other countries?

Coal fired power stations should not be permitted to externalize the cost of operating. They are creating air pollution and subsequent health problems for which the wider community is bearing the cost – through poor health and increased costs for our health care system.

We call on the NSW government to legislate strongly to ensure that all coal fired power stations are required to install best practice pollution control technology regardless of their age.

Our community deserves this!