



Protect the Gardens of Stone

“Say NO to open cut mining!”



**To: The Hon. Barry O’Farrell,
Premier of N.S.W.**
CC: The Hon. Robyn Parker,
Minister for the Environment and Heritage
C/- The Blue Mountains Conservation Society
P.O. Box 29
WENTWORTH FALLS. NSW 2782

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Suburb _____ P/Code: _____

Email: _____

Dear Mr O’Farrell,

Act to protect the Gardens of Stone from open-cut mining

I urge you to reject the 'Coalpac Pty Ltd Consolidation Project' proposal, Castlereagh Highway Cullen Bullen, NSW. This 'consolidation' involves extending open-cut and highwall mining into a large area of the publicly-owned Ben Bullen State Forest (BBSF), NSW and will impact the adjoining lands of the Gardens of Stone.

I am opposed to the development of the proposed Coalpac open cut mine because:

- If approved, the mine would scalp all biodiversity from 1088 hectares of predominantly old growth forest in the BBSF and turn its geodiversity into piles of waste rock.
- I support the NSW National Parks and Wildlife Service wish to add BBSF to the conservation reserve system as a matter of priority; it is an area with outstanding natural values.
- Permitting this proposal would see the NSW Coalition Government privatising and liquidating a large part of public land, whereas I expect state forests to be protected from destruction in perpetuity.
- The Gardens of Stone's iconic and unique sandstone pagodas provide a safe haven for a variety of native flora and fauna; it is a biodiversity hot-spot. If approved, their features and stability may be threatened by partial or total collapse, compromising the region's tourism.
- Our iconic Lyrebirds use the sides of pagodas in this area to nest and raise their young. Mining will completely remove their food habitats.
- Habitats for the Regent Honeyeater, Tiger Quoll and Powerful Owl and at least 32 threatened native animals, 5 of which are listed under the EPBC Act, will be completely removed.
- The large open-cut will create significant dust and air quality issues which will directly affect local residents.
- The open-cut poses risks to the quality and quantity of westward-flowing surface water, and the quality of eastward-flowing groundwater.

Please reject this irredeemably destructive mining proposal and act to protect the region within a State Conservation Area.

Yours Sincerely,

Signature

The section below is for use by the Blue Mountains Conservation Society and will not be forwarded to the Premier.

- YES, I want to volunteer to help protect the Gardens of Stone.
I can help on Stalls Office/Admin Social Media Publicity Other (Specify) _____
- YES, I would like to host a Gardens of Stone talk/slide show for my friends or local group.
- Please tick this box if you do not wish to receive more information from the Blue Mountains Conservation Society.