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From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 14 November 2019 1:32 PM
To: NSW Productivity Feedback
Subject: Undue interference with the Independent Planning Commission

Categories: Green category

Dear Productivity Commissioner, I have been closely following the plans for watering down the NSW Independent Planning Commission. Opposition to the commission from the Minerals Council has reached a fever pitch since they rejected a coal mine in the Bylong Valley.

To be short, the idea that lobbying pressure could weaken the commission is outrageous and I'm surprised it is even legal. The most basic grasp of ethics would tell you that an institution established to regulate private developers including mining companies, should not be able to be watered down by those exact companies. A criminal cannot lobby the government to remove police powers, and given the potential harm of some new mining developments, I don't see how this is any less catastrophic.

Independent bodies will always face attacks from those that seek to control them. But their entire worth is their independence, and so it must be protected at all costs. Public trust in government is at an all-time low and is decreasing every year. Please see this for what it is and defend the IPC.

Regards [REDACTED]