

Dear Productivity Commissioner,

I am writing in support of the NSW Independent Planning Commission continuing as the body that assesses major projects in NSW.

The IPC is an unbiased, corruption-proof body that operates at arm's length of government and industry, applying planning law without prejudice.

The excessive influence of the mining and developer lobbies is well documented, often as a result of investigations by the NSW Independent Commission Against Corruption.

Abolishing the IPC and returning approval powers solely to the Planning Minister and Planning Department would significantly increase corruption risk.

It would also diminish the influence in planning decisions of government agencies whose duty is protection of wildlife, bushland and water resources, and to manage pollution and bushfire risk.

Communities in mining-affected regions have little trust in the Department of Planning or political representatives to take a balanced approach to managing land-use conflict.

These communities rely on the IPC for an independent and objective consideration of highly damaging and controversial mining projects.

Yours sincerely,

{firstname} {lastname}

{postcode}