

Please accept this email as a submission to the Inquiry into the Galilee Basin (Coal Prohibition) Bill 2018

If the global climate is to be stabilised with less than 2 degrees of warming, the transition away from coal, already under way, must be greatly accelerated. An important step to achieve this goal, while minimising disruption of existing employment and economic activity is a moratorium on new coal mines and expansions. Along with 60 eminent Australians, I signed an open letter to world leaders making this case in 2017

https://www.nonewcoalmines.org.au/open_letter

The proposed opening up of the vast, but low-quality, reserves of the Galilee Basin would be a particularly damaging step in the wrong direction. For this reason, I support the bill. However, it would be preferable to approach the issue in a comprehensive fashion, with a moratorium on all new coal mines, and clearly specified limits on expansion or extension of mining activity at existing sites.

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