From: coalcommunities-bounces@lists.nsw.greens.org.au on behalf of Sharyn Munro
To: Coal Communities
Subject: [CoalCommunities] CCWA supportive release on council position
Date: Thursday, 26 August 2010 7:47:45 PM
Attachments: ATT00013.txt

PRESS RELEASE

State and EPA must follow Council lead in opposing Margaret River coal mine

West Australia's peak environment group has congratulated the Margaret River Council on taking a strong stand to protect local community, industry, environment and the Margaret River Brand from proposed coal mine.
At the local council meeting last night the Margaret River council came out in unison to say it has arrived at the position of joining the fight *against* the coal mining proposal.

Louise Morris, Campaigns Coordinator at the Conservation Council of WA said, "Councillors have taken a strong position that reflects the sentiments of the community because it is the right thing to do."

"This position highlights the need for the Environmental Protection Authority to throw out the proposal immediately – it does not take an Environmental Impact Assessment process to determine that this project is totally unacceptable."

"Ray Colyer and others have taken a strong and decisive stand with the people they represent across the region to protect the farming, viticulture and tourism industries from coal mines in Margaret Rivers back yard. This is a resounding signal that local council is listening to the local community, and acting in their best interests.

"Communities across Australia where underground coal mines have gone ahead have seen and experienced negative impacts on local water supplies, air quality and the health of those living around the coal mines.

"The stance the Margaret River Council has taken to join the local community to fight this proposed coal mine is a step in the right direction to protecting the unique environment, industries and community that is Margaret River.

"We call on the State Government and The EPA to take a similar leadership position and immediately rule out any government approvals for this appalling proposal."

Contact: Louise Morris 0408906310

Louise Morris
Campaigns and Public Relations Coordinator
Conservation Council of WA Inc

P: (08) 9420 7266 F: (08) 9420 7273
A: City West Lotteries House, 2 Delhi St, WEST PERTH, WA 6005
W: www.conservationwa.asn.au

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