



## Blue Mountains Conservation Society Inc

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### Nature Conservation Saves for Tomorrow

The Honourable James Griffin MP  
Minister for Environment and Heritage  
Parliament House  
Sydney NSW 2000

11 January 2022

Dear Minister Griffin,

#### **Cracking damage to Mugii Murum-ban State Conservation Area by coal mining at Airly Mine**

The Blue Mountains Conservation Society (the Society) is a community-based volunteer organisation with 900 members. Our mission is to help protect, conserve and advocate for the natural environment of the Greater Blue Mountains. The Society congratulates you on your appointment as NSW Environment Minister.

We are writing to you regarding Mugii Murum-ban State Conservation Area which lies to the north of Lithgow and protects a sandstone mesa that rises 500 metres from the floor of the Capertee Valley. It supports 340 native plant species and hundreds of sandstone rock pinnacles called pagodas.

The Airly Mine appears to have damaged this reserve by mining coal in a manner not in keeping with its development consent. The Society understands that subsidence performance criteria specified in the development consent were exceeded and surface cracking has occurred on rock features in the reserve.

The Society requests that you make representations on our behalf to your colleague the Hon Anthony Roberts to ensure that mining is kept within the limits set by the development consent. The attached letter to Minister Roberts further explains our concerns.

Yours sincerely,

Tara Cameron  
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