

Media Release

Environment Groups call for protection of The Drip Saturday 20 April 2013

Mudgee District Environment Group (MDEG) and Nature Conservation Council of NSW (NCC) are calling on the NSW Government to protect The Drip from the impacts of mining.

'The latest threat to The Drip is the Moolarben northern drilling program which proposes exploration activity as close as 330m to the iconic natural feature on the Goulburn River,' said Bev Smiles, President of MDEG.

'The Drip is a groundwater dependent ecosystem. Any drilling activity into the aquifers that feed The Drip could damage the integrity of the system.'

MDEG is calling on the NSW Government to protect The Drip from disturbance of mining activities by including it in the Goulburn River National Park.

'The community holds this beautiful area in high regard and has been calling for its protection for many years.'

MDEG has received correspondence from local Member for Orange, Andrew Gee, indicating that he was arranging a public consultation on the issue of The Drip.

The community is concerned that proposals to increase exploration drilling activities to the north of the area are now being considered before this consultation has occurred.

'The Drip can only be protected if it is included in the Goulburn River National Park. The NSW Government has a golden opportunity to save this iconic natural area before any irreparable damage is done.'

Contact: Bev Smiles 0428 817 282