

Gladys Berejiklian MP  
Premier of NSW  
GPO Box 5341  
Sydney NSW 2001

Date:.....

## SAVE THE DRIP

Dear Premier

I am very passionate about the iconic landscape feature on the Goulburn River in mid-western NSW known as 'The Drip'.

It is essential that this important groundwater dependent ecosystem and popular tourist attraction is protected for future generations.

Prior to the 2015 state election, the Coalition Government negotiated a partial protection for this area by adding The Drip sandstone escarpment to the Goulburn River National Park. However, the important groundwater system that feeds The Drip is still unprotected from future mining impacts.

To ensure appropriate protection for this important environmental asset I request that your Government make the following commitments in the lead up to the 2019 state election:

1. Do not renew Exploration Licence 6288
2. Convert all of block 45 into National Park. This area contains the groundwater system reporting to The Drip
3. Implement environmental flow rules and good quality water for discharges from mines impacting on the base flows to the Upper Goulburn River.

These key commitments will ensure the future of The Drip and flows in the Goulburn River that will support a healthy river system.

Exploration Licence 6288 is over the regional groundwater system that supports The Drip and base flows to the Goulburn River. Any exploration activities or future mining will have irreversible environmental consequences.

Block 45 contains The Drip and the supporting groundwater system. This area was only partially gazetted as National Park in 2015. The remaining area must be upgraded from State Conservation Area to National Park to protect it from mining impacts.

The three large coal mines operating in the Upper Goulburn River catchment have caused significant loss of base flow to the river system. These must be replaced through a set of environmental flow rules that will ensure the river receives flows when they are needed to support riparian and aquatic ecosystem health.

I look forward to a response to this letter supporting the above commitments

Yours faithfully

Signature.....

Name.....

Address.....