

To Howard Reed, Manager Mining Projects



We, Mark and Catherine Carmody of 2228 Jerry's Plains Rd Jerry's Plains, wish to advise that we oppose the expansion of mining DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3.

We purchased our farm in Jerry's Plains in 2000 and from a bare paddock have built a home, shed and cultivated pastures. We had full intentions of generating a life long income from this property and seeing out our retirement in Jerry's Plains. However, we feel that the mining presence close to our property has greatly devalued it as an asset and possibly made it now a difficult asset for us to ever be able to sell at the value it is truly worth. We believe encroaching mining presence has put us at risk of having a non saleable property in an undesirable area.

In more directly effecting our home and living environment is the noise factor of mining, blasts and the growing number of cracks within our house and the increasing dust issue.

We also wish to raise our concern over the health issues directly related to living in a mining area. I, Catherine Carmody have already endured a sinus operation and continue to suffer from sinus. I have also suffered severe depression and anxiety for which I am still being treated for, caused by the uncertainty of our future in regards to our jobs and our home which has arisen as a direct result of mining.

We also both work here locally for J. Moses, Heroic Pastoral Co., which is known to be in part of your extension plan and we are aware that your presence will eventually mean the demise of our jobs. We anticipated staying in these jobs until retirement in approximately 10 years time at which time we would continue to exist solely from our farm. The infringing mining presence puts both of these options for us in jeopardy.

We suffer the continuous worry of job loss as well as having a home and profit making property all at risk. This uncertainty causes us great apprehension and hence reinforces our concern over mining expansion.

Yours sincerely

Mark Carmody

Department of Planning
Received

13 OCT 2010

Scanning Room

Catherine Carmody

Naomi Nelson - Submission re DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

From: Sharyn Munro <sharyn@sharynmunro.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 6:57 PM
Subject: Submission re DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

Re: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension
November 3, 2010

To whom it may concern,

I wish to lodge my strong objection to this proposal on the main grounds that water is more precious than coal and what Hunter Valley Operations propose is a grave threat to our water sources.

The Hunter River has suffered from many abuses over the last 200 years and it should be assumed that we have learnt a lesson and will not endanger it further with such an insane proposal. A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to the Hunter region and future generations –who may actually need food– than any royalties from coal.

This proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley, and we have lost so much already.

The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities. Please do not ignore this. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river and this must not be permitted.

If you approve this proposal, you know it will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium, and you do not want this on your conscience.

Yours sincerely,
Sharyn Munro
PO Box 647
Singelton 2330

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: Hélène <helenemarguerite@yahoo.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 7:22 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

Dear Planning Officers,

Re: Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I'm writing in order to object to the above mining proposal on these grounds?

1. The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
2. The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
3. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
4. A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
5. If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Please consider my objection most seriously.

Yours in conservation of our precious, irreplaceable environment,

Hélène See

23 Mary Street

Jesmond

NSW 2299

From: Ngawang Lhamo <lhamo@westnet.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 7:26 pm
Attachments: Part.001

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

Dear Sir or Madam

Re: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

Anyone would indeed have "rocks in their head" to approve this application

- Draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 - alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities - this would not be adhered to.

- Mining of prime agricultural land - alluvial river flat - would render it useless for generations to come for the goal of short term profit. A loss in the amount of prime agricultural land available to agriculture.

- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river.

- A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.

- If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium. It would result in large areas of productive agricultural land being no longer available.

Regards

Susan Cooper

From: wendy wales <wgwales@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 8:05 pm
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED
3 NOV 2010

DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

Dear Sir/Madam,

I wish to register my objection to the proposed Hunter Valley
Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension.

The breach of alluvial aquifer buffer protection, loss of agricultural
land and the permanent interference and reduction of the flow into the
Hunter River represent tangible local disadvantages with proceeding.

The exacerbation of global warming by the unprecedented rate of
exploiting Australia's coal resources is another reason the project
should not be extended.

The fertile Hunter alluvium needs to be protected, not sacrificed. We
cannot eat coal.

Yours sincerely

Wendy Wales
Woodburn
Dorset Rd,
Muswellbrook 2333

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington WestWing Extension

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

From: Kylie Seldon <kylie.seldon@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 8:17 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington WestWing Extension

I would like to submit my objection to the proposed mining of the Hunter River alluvial flats.

This proposal will threaten the Hunter River system by destroying the alluvial aquifer and removing base flows from the river.

This would have devastating effects on the river system and it's productive river flats.

A healthy system is vital to prevent the loss of class 1 and class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley and is far more valuable to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal. The proposal in contravention of the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.

I am also concerned that this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium.

As a local community member, I see every day the effects of mining on our natural environment. I find it extremely distressing to see the wasteland that mining creates. I strongly object to this proposal that will further damage our beautiful area and create many negative effects for our local agriculture, environment and communities.

Sincerely,

Kylie Seldon
129 Hill St
Muswellbrook
NSW 2333

Ph 0448421278

**Naomi Nelson - Rio Tinto proposal to mine below Hunter River alluvium - DA 450-10-2003
MOD 3**

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

From: "Hugh Cross" <hcross@tpg.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 9:49 PM
Subject: Rio Tinto proposal to mine below Hunter River alluvium - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Dear Sir/Madam,

I object to the proposal by Rio Tinto to mine coal below the river flats of the Hunter River because of its impact on agriculture and on the environment, particularly the river flow and its aquifers.

The proposal is not compliant with the draft guidelines for coal mining developments (2005) which requires a 150m buffer between mining activities and alluvial aquifers. By mining beneath the alluvial flats, the mine is very likely to cause impacts on the alluvial aquifer, with attendant impacts on the valuable agricultural activities, and on the flow of the Hunter River. I understand that this agricultural land is class 1 and 2, the highest two classes of agriculture, and uncommon in the Hunter valley. Surely we need these areas for future food production when the coal companies are long gone.

Please do not allow this development to proceed, not just because of the impacts it will create directly, but because of the precedent that it will set for future mining applications by this company and others.

Yours sincerely,

Hugh Cross

Carey Bay, NSW
hcross@tpg.com.au

Naomi Nelson - Submission against DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

From: " wendy white" <wendy5@aapt.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 9:52 PM
Subject: Submission against DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I strongly object to the proposal by Rio Tinto to mine 137ha of prime alluvial river flat within 200 metres of the Hunter river to extract 17m tonnes of coal for the following reasons. First the Hunter River and its productive alluvial flats need to be maintained in a healthy condition and as such are worth far more in the long term than 17 m tonnes of coal. If this proposal is approved it will set a precedent for the mining of the rest of the alluvial flats, thus destroying the supremely important Class 1 and class 2 agricultural land.

Secondly the proposal will destroy the alluvial acquifer and will remove base flows from the river, making a nonsense of the draft Management Stream/ Acquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which give alluvial acquifers a150m buffer from mining activities.

I cannot believe that Rio Tinto is seriously proposing something which has such serious ramifications for water and agriculture at a time when farmers and Hunter residents are seriously questioning the many adverse effects of the coal industry.

Wendy White
200 High St
East Maitland 2323

Naomi Nelson - RIO TINTO, Hunter River

From: "Bev Atkinson" <beva@exemail.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 9:59 PM
Subject: RIO TINTO, Hunter River

To Planning, NSW

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

Re: Hunter River Alluvium;

I live in Scone, we are aware of the threats to farming land from many sources, natural and unnatural. This is unnatural.
It is selling our birthright for potage, wasting food land, and its clean water, for quick profits involving further pollution.

It is time to stop this mindless madness.

Do not let Rio Tinto mine more coal in this river valley, especially close to the Hunter River.

Thankyou

Bev Atkinson
67 Park St Scone
2337

beva@exemail.com.au

Naomi Nelson - submission re DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: "Julie Sheppard" <linju1@virginbroadband.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 10:21 PM
Subject: submission re DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

55 Eagles Rd
Razorback 2571

Dept of Planning
plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

3.11.10

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I wish to object to this proposal on the following grounds:

- The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
- A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
- If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Yours faithfully,

Julie A. Sheppard

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

Naomi Nelson - Objection to DA 450-10-2003 Mod 3

From: James Ryan <stringybark@hunterlink.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 11:09 PM
Subject: Objection to DA 450-10-2003 Mod 3

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

Dear Sir

re: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I wish to object to this DA for the following reasons;

The proposal fails to allow 150m buffer to the alluvial aquifer as the requirements of the Draft Management of Stream and Aquifer in Coal Mining Developments 2005.

Class 1 & 2 agricultural land will suffer a cumulative loss.

The proposal will reduce river flows by destroying the aquifer.

I am very concerned that an unacceptable precedent is being set of allowing coal companies to destroy alluvial aquifers.

thanks
James Ryan

33 Brunker Street
Kurri Kurri
2327

Wandewoi
1686 Lemington Road,
Singleton NSW 2330

Mining and Industry Project

RECEIVED

21st October, 2010

24 OCT 2010

Dear Sir/Madam

Re OBJECTION TO DA 450-10-2003-MOD 3

I wish to lodge my objection to the extension of Carrington Pit reference number as above.

I am the livestock manager of the property Wandewoi owned by Heroic Pastoral Company responsible for the day to day running of the property which is adjacent to the proposed mine site.

The environmental issues are obvious, however my concerns are of a personal nature. If approval of this pit goes ahead it will have a severe impact on me and my family as we live and work on the property.

My understanding is that the three houses and all the farming infrastructure of this property will be extremely close to the proposed pit, making it impossible to live and operate our business in a safe manner.

The lack of communications from key personnel of the proposed site only heighten my anxiety.

I am aware I am only a minority however the human cost to this proposal must be taken into consideration when making decision that impact on people's lives.

Regards

Glenn McKay
☎ 0427 707 158

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: Willem Henskens <willemhenskens@gmail.com>
To: plan_comment <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 3/11/2010 11:31 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Dear Planning Officers,

Re: Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

I'm writing in order to object to the above mining proposal on these grounds:

1. The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
 2. The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
 3. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
 4. A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
 5. If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium
- Please consider my objection most seriously.

Yours in conservation of our precious, irreplaceable environment,

--

Lord Willem Henskens

Naomi Nelson - Fw: Save the Hunter

From: Frans Henskens <fhenskens@yahoo.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 12:25 AM
Subject: Fw: Save the Hunter

RECEIVED
3 NOV 2010

Dear Planning Officers

So, I've heard you're planning to carve a mine dangerously close to an aquifer. Good job guys, I sure hope we don't end up with dead miners and a polluted river system. It's not like we actually need clean water for tourism around here or anything.

Due to my inability to accurately convey the inflections I would typically apply to my voice whilst making such statements, I must inform you that I was being sarcastic just now.

With Concern,
Frans N Henskens

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: Laurie See <lcandrose@yahoo.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 6:20 AM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED

3 NOV 2010

From Laurence & Rosemary See

To: plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

Sent: Thurs 4th November, 2010

Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

To:- Planning Officers,

Re: Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I'm writing in order to object to the above mining proposal on these grounds:

1. The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
2. The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
3. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
4. A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
5. If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Please consider our objections most seriously.

Towards conservation of our irreplaceable environment and sustainable economy,

Laurence See, Rosemary See,

17Carolyn St., Adamstown Heights, NSW 2289

Naomi Nelson - Objection To: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: "Richard Stanford" <rmgs@optusnet.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 8:10 AM
Subject: Objection To: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

To Whom It May Concern,

I wish to register my objection to the above DA, regarding Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension.

The Hunter River system and its associated alluvial flats is a priceless asset for generations to come. We have no right to allow them to be ruined for a short term financial gain. It is akin to selling our birthright for a mess of pottage.

From past experience, this proposal will set a precedent, opening the way for destruction of the entire Hunter alluvium.

I submit that this proposal and all similar proposals, should be denied.

I submit that laws protecting alluvial soils, aquifers, rivers and streams should be strengthened and adhered to, without any exceptions.

Yours faithfully,

Richard Stanford

82 Fennell Crescent
Blackalls Park NSW 2283

02 4959 6575

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 - Hunter Valley Operations North - CarringtonWest Wing Extension

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

From: Andrew Gaines <andrew.gaines@alliance4swb.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 8:38 AM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 - Hunter Valley Operations North - CarringtonWest Wing Extension
CC: Bev Smiles <bevsmiles@bigpond.com>

Dear Department of Planning,

In the light of global warming, if the world becomes sane it will ban coal-fired power plants.

In the light of rising global concerns about food security, it is absurd (even evil?) to destroy prime farmland for coal or development.

Likewise, in the light of the long-term wellbeing of Australia it is absurd to allow mining to destroy both prime farmland and water supplies – and mining close to the Hunter River will do this.

I regret that the clerk who first reads this has employment with a state government that allows the permanent destruction of these aspects of NSW's long-term wellbeing. I wish that you worked for a government that you can feel proud of.

Wishing you the best.

Andrew Gaines
Transform Australia
Whole system change for a viable society
(02) 4782-2004
andrew.gaines@transform-australia.net
www.catalysing-mindset-change.wikispaces.com

Naomi Nelson - STOP THIS IDIOCY

From: Margaret Brough <margfrances@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 7:52 AM
Subject: STOP THIS IDIOCY

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

When are you people going to realise that this is a finite planet especially our continent and you cannot keep taking and not giving back. Any accountant will tell you the ledger needs to be balanced

DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.

- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river

• A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of

coal.

*but are you concerned about our Society
or just the money*

- . If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

If we don't look after our planet where else are we going to live?

Margaret Brough
Lindsay Road,
NORTH ROTHBURY THE HUNTER VALLEY

Resident of the Hunter Valley

From: Stephen <hnbkbbmst@hunterlink.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 8:42 am
Subject: RIO TINTO Application

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

RE: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North-Carrington West Wing Extension

I am writing to object to the proposed development. It certainly doesn't take long for lessons to be forgotten. I was on hand, and indeed did a study, of the of mining under Bowmans Creek back in the 1980s where mining near and under the watercourse caused the Creek to stop flowing. This was only a Creek, imagine what would happen if mining occurred near the Hunter River. In fact the Draft Coal Mining Developments Management Plan for Stream/Aquifer Systems says a buffer of 150m is needed.

There wasn't any Class 1 or 2 agricultural land affected by the Bowmans Creek debacle but the farmers felt the negative affects just the same. Another parcel of prime agricultural land will be lost if this mining is allowed to proceed.

Surely this Government and the Planning Department who carries out the Policies must realise the precedent this mining would set if it is allowed to go ahead. I support the Farmers Federation in there move to call for a moratorium on mining in the Hunter to allow for proper consultation and planning, to stop the unholy rush on our mineral resources by money hungry mining ventures who say bugger the community costs we want the profits no matter what the consequences.

Stephen Thatcher
33 Acacia Drive
Muswellbrook 2333
02 65431677

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: Grace Murphy <gracemurphy59@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 2:59 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

Dear Mr Reed

Thank you for your invitation to make a submission regarding the proposed modification at HVO - Carrington West Wing Extension. We object to the proposed modification and set out our reasons below based on our experience and a common sense approach.

- We operate a thoroughbred horse breeding and rearing business which is within the zone of affectation of the proposed extension. We agist mares for a number of clients offering a specialised service for pregnant mares, foaling, rearing and sales preparation. We also race those horses not sold as yearlings and spell horses on the property when not in training.
- We believe the extension will have a negative impact on our business due to the increased noise and dust levels. We are already experiencing noise from existing pits - we believe both Carrington and West pits. While the 'modelling' in the EA suggests a decrease in noise level from the proposed Carrington West Extension, on a common sense approach, we believe this is inaccurate as the mine operations will be significantly closer to our property. On that basis we cannot offer our Clients a good environment for their and our own horses.
- We are particularly worried about being in closer proximity to increased blasting and vibration. Sudden loud noises and shaking ground could cause pregnant mares to abort and young stock to run into fences and cause serious injury to themselves.
- While we do not have employees - this is a family run business - we do support many local businesses. We are fortunate to have expert veterinary services at close hand, we send mares to local studs, utilise local farriers, purchase locally grown hay and purchase all our feedstuffs from local suppliers. We send our older horses to local breakers and trainers. We believe if we are unable to carry on our business - and there may be other small operations similarly affected - this can have an accumulative negative impact on a large number of other local businesses.
- We have invested heavily both financially and personally in developing our property to its current stage and would see the proposed extension as a serious risk to our future development plans.

In more broader terms;

- While we may not be entitled to a "lifestyle" it is very disappointing that the peace and tranquility we once enjoyed is diminishing and we now suffer night disturbance.
- Our understanding is that the original DA prohibited mining the alluvial lands which are the subject of this modification. That condition was placed there for good reason. We believe there is still not enough known about the potential damage and long term effects to the water systems.
- The NP figure of \$482M is very impressive. We accept the Government will generate a share by way of taxes. However we as residents in the area bear the negative impacts of this on a daily basis and do not reap any rewards financially, directly or indirectly - we already pay taxes.
- We accept that C&A are huge employers - 777 as mentioned in the EA. However this we understand is under existing operations and this number will not increase under the proposed modification.
- The EA makes reference to 'local' economic benefits due to the spending power of employees.

Unfortunately only a small percentage live locally - i.e., on the doorstep - not 100Klms away. There is no doubt the larger regional centres and as far away as Newcastle benefit from 'the spend'. In Jerrys Plains there is no improved infrastructure and no housing development. There is a perception that property is difficult to sell in the area with a negative impact on values, due to current and future mining operations.

Again our thanks for giving us the opportunity to put our views forward.

Yours sincerely

Denis & Grace Murphy
Winston Lodge Thoroughbreds
2339 Jerrys Plains Road
Jerrys Plains
NSW 2330

Naomi Nelson - objection

From: "jill and martin lane" <jillandmartylane@clearmail.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 1:59 PM
Subject: objection

RECEIVED
5 NOV 2010

Dear Sir,
re RioTinto mining proposal
I would like to object to the proposed coal mine on the Hunter River flats.
This mine will destroy alluvial soils, aquifer flows and make for a very
unhealthy river system as a whole. This will in turn affect the health
of the communities that depend on the river.
Please do let this mine go ahead, It would be a disastrous decision
for the ecology and environment of the whole Hunter region.
yours sincerely
Jill Crawford-Lane

Naomi Nelson - Objection to Mining DA Modification

From: "Julia & Colin Imrie" <gleniston@aussieb.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 12:08 PM
Subject: Objection to Mining DA Modification
CC: <belinda.parker@planning.nsw.gov.au>

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

At: Dept Planning Planner – Belinda Parker

RE: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

We would like to object to this proposed modification to on the following grounds.

1. This mining proposal disregards the NSW Office Water Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 (draft) which specifies a minimum 150m buffer between mining activities and alluvial aquifers.
2. If this modification is approved it will drain the alluvial aquifer and intercept important groundwater that contribute base flows to the Hunter river
3. The proposal will also result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural lands in the Hunter Valley
4. This proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium and undervalues the critical role of groundwater resources and connectivity with surface waters.

A resilient and healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats are worth more to society over the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.

Julia & Colin Imrie
Gleniston
Cassilis Road Ulan 2850

www.stonecottages.com.au
0263734650

Belinda Parker - objection to carrington west wing

From: "Craig Hunter" <hunters.lodge@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 26/10/2010 07:44
Subject: objection to carrington west wing
Attachments: jake 2010 120.jpg

RECEIVED

26 OCT 2010

Project application Carrington West wing

I totally OBJECT to the project on these grounds.

1. Carrington coalmine is only a few kilometers from my doorstep and Coal& Allied cannot control their DUST levels they have NOW, let alone extending? Until such times as they can control the DUST and poisonous gasses they produce as seen on the four corners program, they shouldn't be aloud to destroy anymore of our precious environment.

Until the mines can fix there Now problems of dust gas etc????I have enclosed dust photos from C&A operations which were explained to me that it was a dust storm from the west which had just had 28 mls of rain Mr Blakeley thinks I am Dumb and speaks to us like we are stupid you only have to see the photo to see the dust is from C& A s mine When I told Mr Blakeley I just took a photo the dust mysteriously dissapeared where was the storm from the west??

2. At this point in time my family is healthy and we feel any more dust and gas could make us sick and will hold these extensions responsible if we do get sick.

3. They have very little rehab you only have to drive by too see the destruction and disturbance so until they can show more rehabilitation they shouldn't be aloud to destroy any more of the environment?

4. If they do get the go ahead with the extra 150 cars on the road without a turning lane for us of f the hwy at 100kms per hour This will put our lives at high risk if this is not corrected before the extensions are a go ahead, and someone will have too be held fully responsible for the LONG POINT residents saftey?? This is a serious safety issue. They have said they will fix there turn off to make it safe at Lemmington road but given us no consideration my truck is 55 foot long and with the extra traffic will have trouble getting around safely without turning lanes to prevent an over tired shiftworker from running into us at 100klms an hour

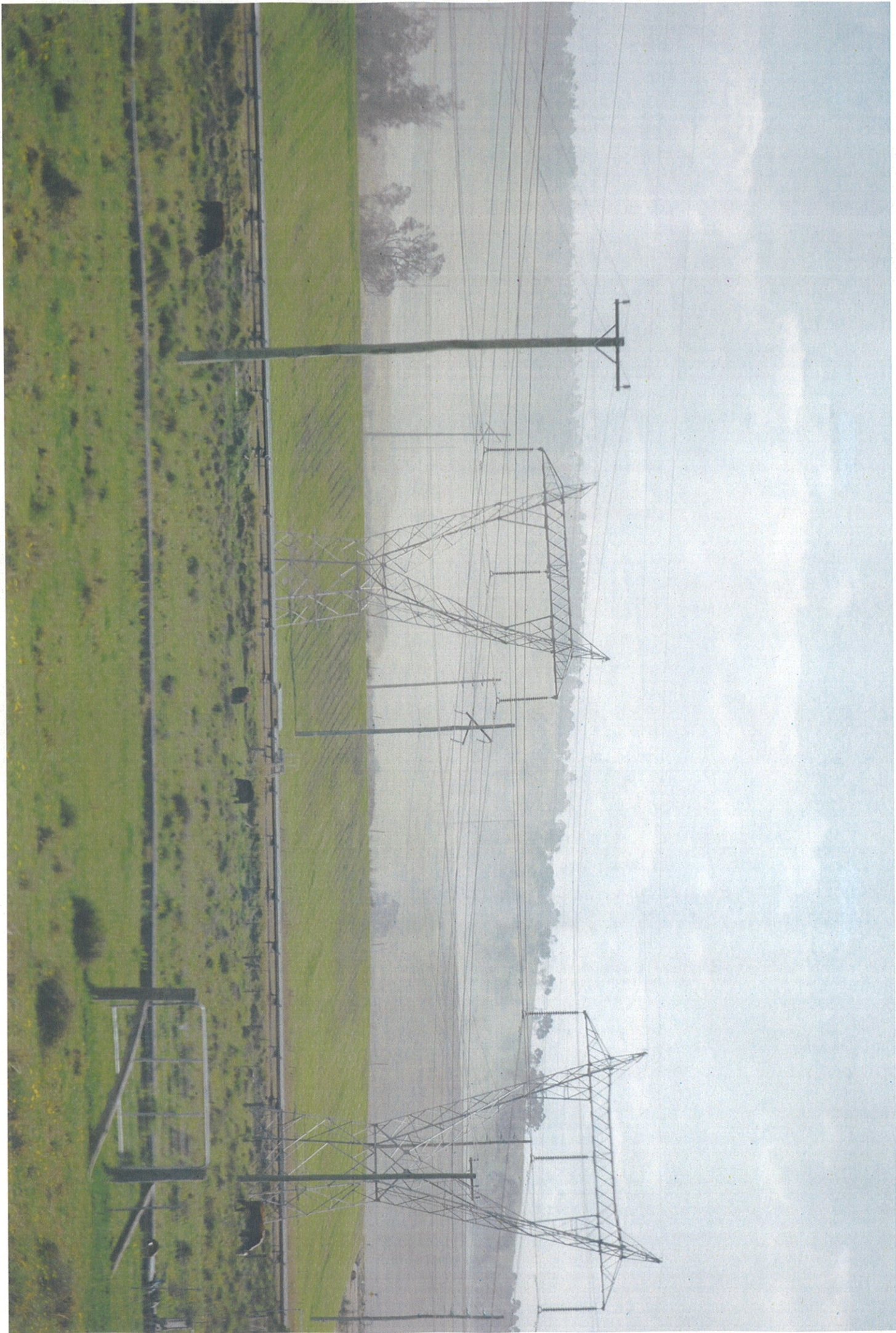
5. Why cant they spend the money and go under ground and save the environment this would be the wiser choice.

6. I hope this is taken seriously before you put my family at such high risk from more dust and gas pollution which they cant control now, and traffic accidents which will arise if the HWY is not upgraded to cope with the extra traffic, and also consider the environment, come and see for yourself the destruction and very little rehab, there is so little rehabilitation, call me for a visit and see the

truth for yourself, you have no idea how bad it really is, you only see and hear what the mine companies want you to see and hear???

7, We already have trouble with the blasting scaring our animals and shaking our property this would make it worse. The noise heard at night is sometimes unbearable I have rang the EPA many times about the NOISE and DUST

Gail Hunter Craig Hunter 0265746090



Naomi Nelson - Mining Hunter River Alluvium

From: Marg McLean <margy.mclean@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 11:05 AM
Subject: Mining Hunter River Alluvium

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

To: Dept Planning
From: Marg McLean
PO Box 462
Singleton 2330

RE: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I object to this proposed extension.

It seems inconceivable to me that an alluvial aquifer of the Hunter River is even proposed to be mined. The impact of breaching the alluvial aquifers on the groundwater system of the Hunter Valley and the loss of water to the Hunter River base flow is unacceptable. The inter-connectivity of the groundwater system has been recognised formally by DIPNR (2005) Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments by providing for buffers from mining activities. Worldwide current best practice is a minimum standard. The result of the high price of coal should not be at the cost of loss of water flow, which may not even become apparent immediately, depending on the interconnectivity of groundwater systems.

The current furore in the MurrayDarling Basin over the long overdue government intervention on scientifically based water and landuse is a taste of how the community would react to loss of water in the Hunter River because of coal mining. The proposed loss of the prime agricultural land to coal mining is outrageous enough. The approval of mining of alluvium in this project would be a totally unacceptable precedent to set. The mining of the highly productive river flats of the hunter alluvium would be a shockingly bad planning decision. This proposal must be rejected.

Yours sincerely,
Marg Mclean

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: "Allan Wills PUBAustralia" <pubaustralia@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 3:17 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

Submission re:

DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension.

I strongly object to the above application as it is proposed to include class 1 & class 2 agricultural land and will result in the loss of valuable food productive land.

The proposal also threatens water aquifers which will impact on the base flows of one of our most important river systems The Hunter. Thus is not in the interest of our human long term sustainability.

The government should be protecting our water supply systems not cashing in for short term gain with no idea of how they would fix the problem or restore the water aquifers.

The Hunter Valley is a very important geographical area of world wide acclaim. Known for its productive river flats and natural heritage.

I also feel that any government intending to allow such destruction is not acting for the people it represents and should be held accountable for the environmental, social and heritage destruction which will result from allowing such applications to proceed.

Yours Faithfully,

Naida Wills
500 Punchbowl Road,
Lakemba NSW 2195
Ph: (Bus) 02 9750 0971
email: pubaustralia@bigpond.com
5th November, 2010

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington WestWing Extension

From: steve denshire <stevedenshire@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 1:54 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington WestWing Extension

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

To Home it may concern

RE :DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I am writing you to express my strong objection to the proposed coal mine extension named above .

I am a local resident of the Hunter Vally and in my opinion and many other , the hunter is majorly over mined . The continual exploitation of our local community's here is having a detrimental effect on our lives and local business .

1. This mine would put the hunter river under direct threat of contamination and feather environmental impacts and as i understand the Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities would be breached in the expansion of this mine
2. The hunter is already losing much needed farm lands due to coal mining and the expansions of . This extension would result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
3. The world is under great pressure due to climate change , this mine extension would result in more green house gasses and feather encourage Global warming and Climate Change .
4. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
5. The hunter has a lot more to gain out of our environment then another coal mine . Its about time that the governments starts listening the the people of this country and stops bending over for massive corporate enter prize such as Rio Tonto that are fly by night money hunger environmental criminals . We are having our land , water , health , environment and lively hoods taken away from us .

Regards
Steve Denshire

Hunter Vally
Resident

plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

From: "Chris Parker" <krus@southernphone.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 10:28 am
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

NSW Planning Dept.

DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension
Dear Sir/Madam

The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities which I believe is far too close to one of our vital river systems anyway.

The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley when we already have 73% of rich agricultural land owned by coal mines in the Muswellbrook area. It has been recognized already that with the decline of suitable agricultural land our reliance on fresh food imports will grow in the future. WHAT A DISGRACE!

The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river already suffering from the impact of salt contamination closer to the mouth of the river.

A HEALTHY HUNTER RIVER SYSTEM AND ITS RICH AGRICULTURAL LAND WHICH HAS SUPPORTED NOT ONLY THE HUNTER BUT SYDNEY AS WELL IS WORTH MORE TO ALL OF AUSTRALIA IN YEARS TO COME THAN 17 m TONNES OF COAL.

If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Yours Truly

Chris Parker
!575 George Booth Drive
BUCHANAN NSW 2323
krus@southernphone.com.au

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 - Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

From: "randjfenwick" <randjfenwick@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 10:43 AM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 - Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

This application must be refused based on the following:

- Underground mining impacts on water supply.
Any watercourses above the mine will lose flow.
Aquifers will be damaged and probably will never recover to previous conditions.
This will reduce the flow of water into the Hunter River.
- There is a limited supply of prime agricultural land in the Hunter Valley.
Every time approval for a new mine or extension for an existing one is granted the land for agriculture is reduced. It is time to look to the future and consider where the food for generations to come will be grown.
- The cumulative effects of mining continue to impact on the communities of the Singleton area.
 - More of our smaller communities will vanish.
 - There will be more dust.
 - There will be more noise.

It is time to put a stop to this now!!

Once mining happens, the alluvial land is destroyed forever.

It is time to consider those who will be impacted rather than the financial gain of the mining companies and the state government.

Janet Fenwick
5/11/2010

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD3

From: "Megan Benson" <megabens@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 10:27 AM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD3

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

REFERENCE DA 450-10-2003 MOD3
HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS NORTH
CARRINGTON WEST WING EXTENSION

RIO TINTO APPLICATION TO MINE 137ha PRIME ALLUVIAL RIVER FLATS WITHIN 200m OF HUNTER RIVER

I object to this proposal because the adverse effects of the expansion of the coal industry have been to date, primarily been unaccounted for by appropriate authorities. These include impacts on agricultural productivity, threats to the tourist industry and community health (air quality and water quality issues). These concerns are compounded by the fact that the community bears the burden in the long term of the social, economic and environmental losses caused by the incremental expansion of coal mining. Further, viable alternatives to coal extraction and production do exist that allow for a just transition away from the industry. Further,

- The proposal will result in the loss of class 1 and 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley - The NSW Farmers federation has called for a moratorium on all new coal projects until a strategic plan has been developed by State Government to protect food security and agricultural land.
- The proposal contravenes the raft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the Hunter river
- Pollution from the proposal adds to health risks already experienced within the Hunter Region - I quote the following; Dust Danger (Sydney Morning Herald Letters to the Editor November 4)" Kores Australia is remarkably ill-informed when it states that "coal is not toxic or poisonous". Coal is just not carbon, it contains heavy metals such as mercury, arsenic and lead, carcinogenic benzene derivatives, sulphides and radioactives - all toxic to living organisms, especially when inhaled as fine particle dusts. **Hunter Valley health statistics, just beginning to reveal the long-term impact of coal-dust inhalation on respiratory and cardiovascular diseases and cancer rates, demonstrates that coal and coal-fired power generation are far from benign**" (Dr Pauline Roberts, Inverell).

I appreciate the opportunity to express my objections.

Yours faithfully,
 Megan Benson,
 2455 The Lakes Way, Bunwahl 2423
 home phone 4997 6522
megabens@gmail.com

Naomi Nelson - Hunter Valley Operations

From: Lisa costello <lisa4worldpeace@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 7:34 AM
Subject: Hunter Valley Operations

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

To Whom it may concern

I strongly object to Rio Tinto's plan to mine on alluvial flats within 200m of the Hunter River to extract coal.

- The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
- A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
- If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium
- This is madness. Stop all coal mining now.
- Coal mining is killing people
- thank you
- Lisa Costello
- 433 Caniaba Road
- Caniaba NSW 2480

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003MOD3

From: "Buttai Barn" <info@buttaibarn.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 10:08 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003MOD3

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

We would like to object in the strongest possible terms to the proposed mining by Rio Tinto of Hunter River alluvial flats. Our reasons are as follows:-

- The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities
- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 and class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
- A healthy Hunter River system and it's productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal

Yours sincerely
Gary & Marilyn Maddison

Naomi Nelson - Submission re DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 - Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

From: "Baz Thrower" <cafrance@bigpond.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 8:56 PM
Subject: Submission re DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 - Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

Dear sir,

I wish to object to the above DA on the following grounds:

- The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities. Such measures should not be overridden for the benefit of large mining companies.
- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley.
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river. At a time when we are starting to appreciate the importance of healthy river systems, this would be disastrous.
- A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
- If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Regards

Baz Thrower

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

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From: Paul and Helen Moors <moors@aapt.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 8:05 PM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

4 NOV 2010

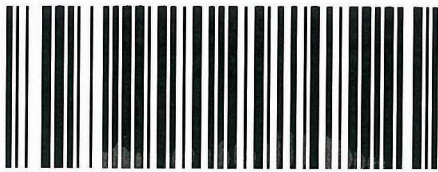
Dear Sir/Madam

We must put a stop to coal mining's unbridled rampage over the rest of NSW.

I understand that this project threatens the alluvial aquifers in the region. There is no room for error with such national assets. Any project posing any risk to nature must not be allowed.

In the Lake Macquarie area we have had a coal company boldly proposing what they claimed to be a legal open-cut mine which subsequently was ruled illegal. It is time that the coal companies' behaviours be brought under control of a Government which is focused on the sustainable long-term health of our land, and hence our community's future.

Paul Moors



PCU015834

15th October 2010



To Howard Reed, Manager Mining Projects

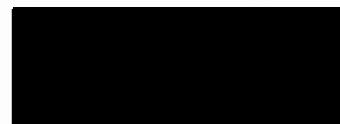
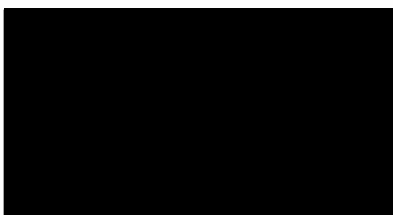
We [REDACTED] are writing on the proposed modification application Number (DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3); on your existing Carrington Mine pit, we wish to advise that we are objecting to the expansion of mining and the reasons why is that,

No 1- We have had our property on the market now for ten months and we feel that your mine close to our property has greatly devalued, and we feel if the extensions go ahead that we will never sell, we have been living here now for 15 Years and is a real shame that we have to sell our property due to noise and dust that is in the air its turning people away and this is very annoying for us.

No 2- We also have a problem with sleeping the noise and bright lights and blasting is a big issue with a number of cracks happening now more often in our home we have in the past your people from your mine over on our property a couple of times to investigate the noise and bright lights and again no change.

No 3- We are also concerned about our health issues we all suffer with allergies and sinus from the dust as well we have issues with black dirt in our gutters, we rely on tank water which has filtering on it and that alone is very expansive, this is coming from your mine and not being able to sell this is getting very hard to live with, so our main concerns are health, noise, bright lights, water, cracks, devaluation on our property and not being able to sell due to mining and the concerns over the new expansion.

And due to us trying to sell we do not want our names made available to the Proponent, these authorities, or on the Department's website.



5 NOV 2010

RECEIVED

Modification Application Number

(DA450-10-2003MOD3)

Mining and Industry Projects,

Department of Planning

GPO Box 39 Sydney

NSW 2001

T&J Ventra

Lot 19 Long Point Rd

Gouldsville NSW

2330

65746824

To whom it may concern,

I oppose to the HVO north- Carrington West wing extension. There are a number of reasons for this:

- This will place more vehicles on the golden highway and make it more dangerous at our turn off. It is already risky without a SAFE TURN OFF SECTION at Gouldsville road.
- More dust pollution
- Health issues- We came back from a week away in unpolluted surrounds and was only out of the vehicle for less than 5 minutes and our eyes became irritated and watery.
- Noise
- Devaluation of our properties

Health and safety of the locals should be a priority.

Yours sincerely,

Tony and Joanne Ventra

Page 1 of 2

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

Robyn A. Moore,
Apple Tree Flat,
Jerry's Plains.2330

Ph / Fax 0265764115
3rd November, 2010

Concerned Resident of Singleton Shire
Occupation – Primary Producer

Mining and Industry Projects,
Department of Planning,
GTP Box 39,
Sydney.NSW 2001
Fax 0292286466

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: -- Proposed Modification Hunter Valley Operations North
Carrington West Wing Extension Modification (DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3)

I have great concerns and objections to the Modification of Hunter Valley North Carrington West Wing Extension Modification Application No. DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3.

Submissions :-- I wish to strongly Object to the Carrington West Wing Extension on the following grounds.

1/ That any Agricultural Alluvium Lands should never be allowed to be mined open cut or underground. Hunter Valley Operations have previously rehabilitated land on the alluvium river flats, with not alot of success. It is common knowledge that it is seen, as an eyesore with alot of sudsidence and a general mess. This top Quality Alluvium Agricultural land will never be the same after it has been mined, it can not be rehabilitated back to the top quality land that it is today.

2/ Hunter Valley Operations should not be allowed to build a Levee Bank and a ground water barrier wall, as this will increase the height of a high flood flow up stream at Jerry's Plains causing flooding and damage to alluvim lands and to the Hunter River. The high flood flow when contained in a narrower stream will increase the speed of the flow down stream causing erosion to the river and alluvium. As a primary producer (farmer) I have restrictions and guidelines that ~~I~~ must follow to preserve and protect the Hunter River and the alluviums, so why is it OK for mines such as Hunter Valley Operations to do what they want, with no regard for the Hunter River or the precious underground water. This mine can not guarantee that this levee bank will not cause major flooding elsewhere or that the underground aquifers will not flow into the mine resulting in these underground streams been contaminated with the salt, etc from the mine workings. Once this valuable resource(the water) is contaminated it is gone forever. Without Water and Top Quality Alluvium lands, Australia's food supply as we know it today will be gone forever. Every High Flood Flow is different, nature usually determines what high flows are, and mines should not be allowed to play with nature.

3/ The Community of the Jerry's Plains and Districts need to be protected from the Dust, Pollution and Noise which will be greatly increased with this extension. There are major health issues in the area, which are continuing to rise and needs to be addressed. It has been widely reported in the media that even if the Dust and Pollution levels are within the state guidelines, that the exposure to these pollutants are dangerous. By bringing Hunter Valley Operations closer to Jerry's Plains with the Carrington West Wing Extension this will also bring with it alot more Noise that is already causing concerns to the Jerry's Plains Community including the Surrounding Districts. At Apple Tree Flat where I reside there is constant noise from the

Page 2 of 2

mine now, with the signalling of the horns when the trucks are loaded, to the rocks been dropped in the trucks and the noise of the shovel cables many, many kilometers away. What will it be like for the POOR PEOPLE who live in Jerry's Plains, if this extension is allowed to go ahead.

The Cumulative Impact is out of control in the Hunter Valley, especially around Jerry's Plains. Top Quality Alluvium lands, the Hunter River and Underground Aquifers are what is needed for the Future for Australia, without these VALUABLE RESOURCES Australian Agriculture, especially in the Hunter Valley will be gone forever, as I said earlier the CUMULATIVE IMPACT in the Hunter Valley is out of control.

It would be nice if for once the farmers were considered, and that are objections were taken on board, in saying that, thankyou for allowing me to make this submission in objection to Carrington West Wing Extension.

Yours sincerely,

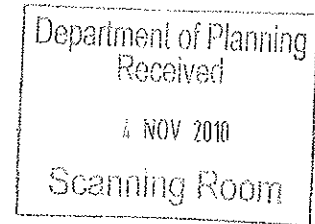
Robyn A. Moore

R.A. Moore

"Dargin's Farm"
Mt Thorley
Singleton 2330

November 1st, 2010

Assessment Branch
NSW Planning
Sydney.



SUBMISSION AGAINST DA 450-10-2003 MOD3 CARRINGTON WEST

(A) The EA is inadequate in failing to provide the drilling logs for the proposed site to reveal the depth of the soil types and gravels; water flow rates and water quality to demonstrate convincingly the low permeability of the aquifers. It is necessary to know how much water there is in the water bearing gravel on the alluvium in order to adequately assess the merits of this proposal. I believe there has not been sufficient testing (deliberate) of the alluvium to have an accurate guide to predict the water bearing gravel and flow rates. The request for these drilling logs was made in writing to RTC&A and to NSW Planning before the preparation of the EA.

Fourteen piezometers over the west pit area is an insufficient number to provide reliable data for an area as large as this. With this limited number it is possible to disguise the correct hydraulic condition of the aquifer system. It is possible to completely miss underground streams with high hydraulic connectivity to the Hunter River.

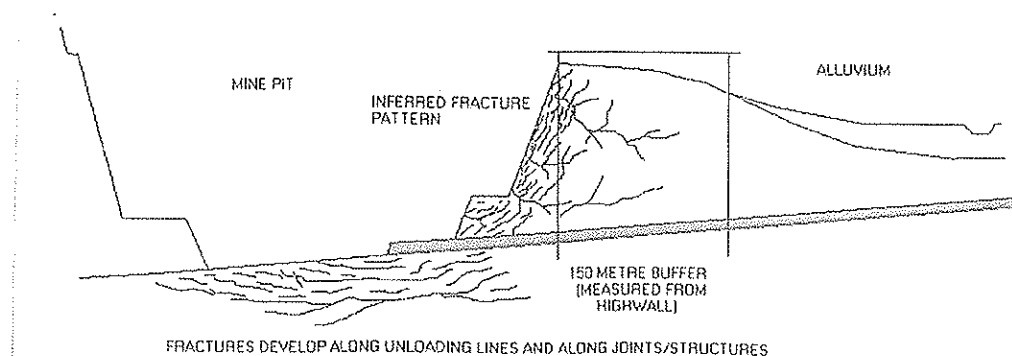
I believe the area of alluvium to be mined had 6 to 8 wells operating at the time the mine purchased the farmlands. My comment is that the area has a higher hydraulic conductivity than stipulated. I add as important that post mining these will be unable to be reinstalled.

(B) I support the NSW Farmers, The Hunter Valley Water Users Association and the Thoroughbred industry call for a moratorium on coal mining in the Hunter until the Strategic Review on Coal mining in the Hunter is completed and discussed publicly. I believe that the 2005 draft DIPNR policy Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments must be endorsed as part of this Review.

Under this policy there is a buffer zone where alluviums and alluvial aquifers will not be allowed to be mined. The buffer stipulates a 150 m distance between the high wall of the mine and the outside edge of the alluviums.

I enclose a diagram of the buffer zone definitions for open cut mining operations. This definition has been used in coal mining assessment since 2005 and must be applied here.

Protective buffer zone:



This policy adopts a precautionary approach to mining in the vicinity of Schedule 3 streams and associated alluvial groundwater and that approach must be applied in this instance. Best practice coal mining occurs when the mine goes beyond the regulatory requirements. Even when the coal mine applies the 150 m set back and abuts but not penetrates the alluviums a more rigorous assessment is required.

NSW Planning should commission independent regional water surveys that consider the cumulative and long term impact of mining on groundwater and connectivity with river systems, including the long term recovery of aquifers breached or disturbed by mining and the implications to river flow and other water users.

(C) In 2005 the then Department of Infrastructure, Planning and Natural Resources released a strategic assessment of coal mining potential in the Upper Hunter Valley. The assessment noted the regionally significant prime agricultural lands in the Upper Hunter, with particular value to the equine, dairying, horticultural and cropping industries.

I submit alluviums are sacred and can never be replaced. They take 100s of years to be formed and only a small percentage of area statewide is mapped as being class 1 or 2. For Singleton, according to the Department of Industry and Investment Agriculture Sustainability Maps, there is 1.7% of class 1 land and 1% of class 2 land compared with .02% class 1 and 7.9% Class 2 statewide. These figures show the importance of Carrington for agriculture. The loss of this land to Carrington West therefore cannot be justified as its loss is irreversible as I will argue in (D) below.

As quoted in the Newcastle Morning Herald (September 4th) Senator Heffernan said state governments were obsessed with making "a fast buck" from coalmining royalties and were ignoring long-term prosperity that was tied to the productivity of irreplaceable farmland. "There are many potential solutions for energy production but not many solutions for food." I concur with this comment and argue that it is the duty of the Minister when making a decision on this and other mining developments to weigh up the economic benefits of jobs and royalties against the economic losses to agriculture and the costs to the environment (air pollution and remediation) and society (health).

(D) Mining and rehabilitation must be avoided on alluvial lands. The Upper Hunter Strategic Review noted that open cut mining can clearly have major impacts on streams, alluvial aquifers and alluvial soils. Mining which removes alluvium to reach coal beneath has an obvious impact on an alluvial aquifer, requiring it to be dewatered during mining, and with very little probability of successful restoration afterwards.

It has taken hundreds of years to form the alluviums and they cannot be replaced. Rehabilitation areas are a poor reflection of the previous quality of the land. Class 1 and 2 agricultural land is land which is suitable for growing crops and enjoys significant protection ..Class 1 land is Arable land suitable for intensive cultivation where constraints to sustained high levels of agricultural production are minor or absent. Class 2 land is arable land suitable for regular cultivation for crops, but not suited to continuous cultivation. It has a moderate to high suitability for agriculture but soil factors or environmental constraints reduce the overall level of production and may limit the cropping phase to a rotation with sown pastures.

I submit that areas where rehabilitation of class 1 and class 2 agricultural lands has been previously attempted is nowhere nearly as good as it should be. The 0 to 10-15 meters of top soil is rarely available to rehabilitate an area but spoil fill and a small amount up to 30 cm is used instead. Much of the valuable resource is disposed of or dumped with the mine rejects. In the Carrington West area I believe the area of alluvium to be mined had 6 to 8 wells operating at the time the mine purchased the farmlands. Post mining these will be unable to be reinstalled. The area will probably never produce food again.

For the first 1 to 3 years after mining in rehabilitating an area of class 1 or 2 agricultural land, thousands of dollars are spent on care, seeding and fertilizing for glossy pictures and promotion propaganda. After the

initial showpiece is completed the top soil is left in a terrible state with overgrown noxious weeds and unlevel surface. This standard of restoration is unsuitable for farming crops (corn and lucerne for example) or farm machinery uses.

The alluvial land that mining companies purchased prior to mining or as part of acquisition zones are in most cases not farmed like a private farm owner would. A farmer in these areas could have a farm cropping rotation plan in operation (most do); an up-to-date irrigation system with possibly 1 or 2 wells for extra irrigation water; a good animal carrying capacity with a noxious weed control program in place. If a good alluvial farm is owned by the mine and leased to a farmer in most cases the farm operates productively. But I have seen alluvial farms with the potential to be run very well turn into grass paddocks growing quality weeds and no farming practices in place. This observation demonstrates the earlier point about lack of care.

(E) There is no mention in the EA of the 2.5 meter flood height over the site in the 1955 flood (the largest flood recorded in the Hunter) with the water level to the ceilings of the houses on the flood plain and its effect on the alluviums. The anecdotal evidence of this is strong.

This evidence calls into question the flood predictions in the EA. Flood risk assessment is a crucial part of the assessment for this development not just for the mine because of the risk of flood overtopping the levee and flooding the mine pit but also because of the potential for farms up and downstream to be impacted on by increased flood levels, in such a dramatic flood event as the 1955 flood, by the mining operations particularly the construction of the levee and barrier wall.

The maps in Volume 2 show the flood heights for the mine lease area only. This is unacceptable. The flood heights over the Lemington Road bridge over the Hunter must be estimated and mapped. The area in hectares of increased spread of water in a 1955 flood situation must be estimated and mapped. The three 3 volumes of the EA demonstrate a lack of interest in anything other than direct mine concerns.

Floods are estimated to be the most costly natural disaster in Australia. The Hunter River flood in 1955 was the most costly doing \$500 million damage. In estimating the extent, off lease, of the area likely to be covered by water additional to the volume and spread without the Carrington West pit, the EA must estimate the costs in lost crops, property, fences and other infrastructure to affected landholders and to the local Council, RTA, Energy Australia etc.

(F) I have no confidence in the bentonite barrier wall to prevent, in the long term, the loss of base flows in the Hunter River through the connectivity between the infilled mine pit and the river and associated remnant alluviums. This has the potential for losses of water to water users and the environment. The potential for transmission of saline groundwater into the river is also too high a risk to be allowed.

The bentonite wall has the capacity to admit water from the Hunter from beneath and around its construction. With depressurization from HVO mining activities and activities of adjoining mines and the impacts of blasting there is no guarantee that the wall will perform the vital task demanded of it. I believe that detailed assessment should be provided of its construction, composition, permeability factors with margins of error and contain a detailed assessment of the performance of the existing wall as well as the performance criteria by which this new wall will be assessed.

The absence in the 3 volumes of any remediation techniques should the barrier fail is alarming. My belief is that there are no effective techniques for remediation of serious damage to rivers and creeks. I also have concerns with respect to available, successful remediation techniques, should any of the above impacts eventuate

All previous assessments, audits, reports and monitoring data for the existing wall must be produced and made available for public comment.

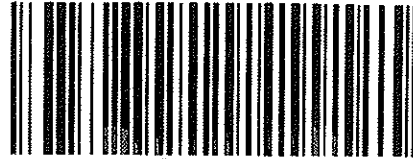
I believe the importance of the barrier wall to the whole project is so crucial to its environmental safety and to the nil impact requirement that is demanded by its sensitive location that NSW Planning must employ an independent expert to oversee its efficacy. The first thing that must be done is a complete examination of the performance of the earlier wall for its permeability, stability, evidence of cracking as a result of blasting and settlement, seepage rates under or around it including the volume of water and flow rate.

This is an essential part of this assessment since the proponent claims that the barrier wall will be constructed like the previous wall. By this scant reference he is seeking to avoid scrutiny on this essential matter. If the walls are to be the same we should expect the same performance and be able to apply the same performance criteria.

It was a serious weakness in the EA that this information was not included. I submit to NSW Planning that the EA should not have passed the adequacy test since it does not allow a submitter sufficient information to form a meaningful, well informed and reasoned opinion as to all the environmental consequences and therefore does not fulfill the requirements of the EP&A Act in this regard.

Faithfully,

Bruce R Russell



PCU016368

"Dargin's Farm"
Mt Thorley
Singleton 2330

November 3rd, 2010

Assessment Branch,
NSW Planning,
Sydney.



SUPPLEMENTARY SUBMISSION AGAINST DA 450-10-2003 MOD3 CARRINGTON WEST

Please accept this additional comment as part of my objection to the above proposal.

It has been brought to my attention over the past day that HVO RTC&A flagged to the CCC meeting that an area for mining in the future will be on the southern side of Carrington West into the alluviums adjacent to the River. A major part of this area is high value river flood plain alluviums. This is an additional reason for rejecting Carrington West to mine the river alluviums and their aquifers.

Sincerely,

Bruce A Russell

50 Shearers Lane,
Maison Dieu,
via Singleton, 2330.

Director General,
Planning NSW,
Box 39, GPO.
Sydney, 2001

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

October 30th 2010

Dear Sir,

I object to the Carrington West proposal for RTC&A DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3.

As a long time dairy farmer on the alluvial lands of the Hunter I cannot support the idea of any mining enterprise interfering with flood plains lands and the river and aquifer systems.

The land at Carrington was once viable and valuable agricultural lands supporting dairy operations like my own. Once it is destroyed it cannot be returned to the condition it once was, capable of supporting economic viable agricultural enterprises. The alluviums are going to be taken away and not returned. A mere 30 cm of topsoil over mining rubble has proved at HVO and on mines elsewhere to be inadequate covering for rehabilitation that supports original ecosystems and pasture and/or woodland.

I reserve the right to make additional comment on this point and others after the CCC site inspection of the previous rehabilitated land scheduled for the 25th November.

Agricultural sustainability is an issue of local, state and national concern. Food security is being discussed federally. Mining is a finite enterprise. Once the mines have gone we have the right to expect that our land is returned to the capability it originally had. The Carrington West proposal will replace 140 ha of prime agricultural land with a reconstituted mine void on which it will be impossible to farm not just because of the loss of alluvium and the alluvial aquifers but because no tractors or other farm machinery will be able to operate on the subsided rubble.

Water is also our most precious commodity. The Murray Darling Basin controversy illustrates this most clearly. That river system reveals what can happen if it is not regulated for sustainable use. We cannot allow mistakes to be made on the Hunter as they have been on the Murray Darling and this is what it will be if NSW Planning approves the mining of Carrington West so close to the Hunter River.

The fact that a levee and bentonite barrier wall are necessary tells me that there are serious potential problems. Previous mining in that area has depressurized the groundwater system and water is seeping into existing pits. The mine supporting EA for this development has not quantified this seepage or reported the pump out rates and volumes. There is no piezometric data in the EA or the AEMR which would support the claims that the bentonite wall is a reliable barrier and that seepage from the river will not occur under and around it. Unexplained water losses from the Hunter River are reported to the Water Users from State Water. Until it can be categorically demonstrated that these losses are not caused by mining then there must be a complete embargo on all mining that seeks to interfere with the Hunter River, its creeks and alluviums.

I demand that the Stream/Aquifer Guidelines (DIPNR 2005) be applied to this mine proposal and that mining be refused on all areas within 150 meters from the bank of the river to the edge of the alluviums. The fact that the River and alluvial groundwaters are connected must be acknowledged.

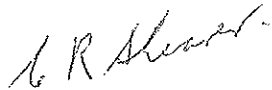
The potential for a wrong decision here to permanently significantly affect the Hunter River and its flow regime is a very serious constraint on the development. Water quality and water security is protected by legislation. The Water Sharing Plans for both the Hunter River and the Hunter Unregulated and

Groundwater users will be disrupted if this development causes serious damage. Once a river or creek is cracked it cannot be remediated. Losses from seepage cannot adequately be offset by licence entitlements as the proponent suggests since seepage cannot be properly accounted for or regulated. How will this seepage be metered. Metering is a State Water requirement for all water taken in NSW>

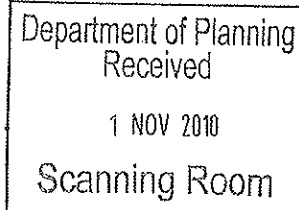
I am a member of the HVO CCC and the conditions of consent devised to protect my health and amenity have yet to be implemented. Consent was granted on the 24th March 2009 and I am still waiting for the essential air conditioning. Yet the mine has been working all the time encroaching closer and closer to my property and home. The expansion of Lake James dam is encroaching to within 1 km of my house with the attendant dust unbearable. Mines get their consent and forget about the promises. It is because of the failure of the regulatory system and because of the additional dust to be created that I object to this development.

I live very close to Hunter Valley Operations and will personally be impacted by the noise and dust generated. I, like many others in Singleton, have serious concerns that my health is being affected by the ever growing open cut mining activities of the region. More and more this mine and others nearby exceed the NEPM standard for PM10 particulate matter. It is well known that fine particulate matter can have serious health impacts. It is unacceptable to me that this extension has no suggestion for any PM2.5 monitors and that no health risk assessment was done for the people who live nearby and for the residents of the Singleton LGA for the dust it will generate and that will be generated cumulative by the multiple mines in the area. No long term cumulative assessment was done specifically for health impacts.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "G. R. Stewart". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

TONY LAFFAN
PO Box 235,
Singleton, 2330



October 27th 2010

Major Projects Assessment,
Department of Planning,
Sydney.

Dear Sir,

This is a submission against the Carrington West proposal DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3.

Briefly my concerns are the destruction of class 1 and 2 agricultural land, floodplain alluviums, which cannot and will not be rehabilitated to economically feasible and viable use to the standard of the original agricultural land. This land was once very productive dairy farms. It will never return to such a valuable use. The security of food production is a crucial national issue.

The EA for this proposal does not give a clear commitment to the retention of all of the alluvium soils so that they can be reused on this area and other areas for rehabilitation purposes. Planning should make this a priority condition of consent.

In seeking to mine these river flats the mine will have to destroy the alluviums and interfere with the aquifer system. Depressurization will occur and risks created to the groundwater connectivity and to the Hunter River base river flow. This cannot be allowed. Indeed there is a draft NOW policy which requires open cut mining be set back 150m from the river bank to the edge of any alluviums. This policy should be applied here. Water quality and water security must be preserved. Coal reserves exist all over the valley and beyond so I take the view that this land and the river banks must be protected and the coal taken from less sensitive areas.

I reserve the right to make a more detailed submission during the planning process.

Your sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tony Laffan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Carrington West
Due Date 6th November

DA 450-10-2003 M0013 N.V. North West Pit Extension

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

142 ha for 17m t of coal over 5 years

Belinda Parker
NSW Planning
Major Project Assessments
GPO Box 39
Sydney, 2001

Some points to include in an objection.

The proposal aims to mine the Hunter River flood plain and remove alluvial soils that cannot be replaced.

The competition between land uses in the Valley is seeing agriculture being forced out more and more. The future of our food security is at risk. The 130 ha to be mined were once highly productive dairy and agricultural farming enterprises.

The company says it will restore the land to Class 2 agricultural land after mining but this is impossible since the top soil even if it can be stockpiled and reused will sit on unconsolidated mine spoil which will as it settles create land contours unsuitable for intensive agriculture which may require tractor and farm machinery over it and on which fencing and building will not be practical. Past rehabilitation of mined alluvial lands produced crops but they were not economical. C&A threw so much money at them that no farmer would be able to afford. They produced some of the most expensive lucerne in history. Three years after the initial lucerne crop the area became a degraded uneven weed paddock.

The NSW Office of Water policy on groundwater and alluvium protection advises against mining alluviums close to a category 3 stream which the Hunter R is. A buffer zone of 150m between the river and the edge of the alluviums is stipulated.

Little assessment done about flooding, modelling only shows impact on the mine lease not on neighbouring areas/farms up or downstream

A levee will protect flood water from entering the mine and the flood height will only grow 1 cm. But 1 cm (even if this were correct) could equate to hundreds and hundreds of hectares of neighbouring farms as the water slowly spreads.

No suggestion that compensation should be paid if people lose their crops or hay sheds are flooded which would not have happened without the new levee. IT IS A MUCH MORE SUSTAINABLE POLICY NOT TO ALLOW MINING ON FLOOD PLAINS AND TO AVOID THE RISKS ALTOGETHER.

The 1955 flood ignored. Landowners of the area report a height of 2.5m over the proposed mine footprint.

A bentonite wall/trench to the coal seams will be constructed to protect the workings from leakage from and into the Hunter River. The EA Groundwater Report (Mackie Environmental Research Appendix C Vol.2) raises the question as to why this is needed and where this water is coming from. The potential for underwall leakage is too great a risk and any losses to the base flow of the HR will impact on the other water users of the Hunter and be unable to be accounted for under the HUAWSP. The leakage over time (forever) will not be minimal and will be unable to be remediated.

Ashton coal is having a similar impact on Glennies Creek. This is a very serious issue which NSW Planning and the other agencies must deal with immediately. There must be a moratorium on the mining of all agricultural lands especially those alluvial lands and aquifers near important creeks or rivers.

The potential impact on the Hunter River of this enterprise is enormous. Water quality and water security are the two main issues. There is the potential for saline water from the fractured rock aquifers to accumulate and through fractures flow back into the river.

There is the potential for seepage from the river to the mine workings to reduce the base flow of the river. The mine relies on the construction of a levee and bentonite wall to protect against this. No details of the bentonite wall are provided in the EA as to its depth construction permeability of materials etc. No technical and environmental assessment of the existing levee are provided to assure water users of the long term effectiveness of this technique against river damage. Anecdotal information reports that there is unspecified leakage under the earlier wall.

G.W. & J.M. WHATHAM
for G.W. Whatham

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

Amelia Laffan

1/41 Fitzroy St
Mayfield 2304

The Director General
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney, 2001

Dear Sir,

This is an objection to the proposal to mine the alluvial lands at Lemington by Hunter Valley Operations, Carrington West DA 450-10-2330 MOD3.

It is based on the fact that mining results in permanent changes to the landscape which can alter its hydrological function. This in turn may have a significant long term consequences for the surrounding environment. Depressurization caused by removal of rock can cause loss of base flow in the river; increase flood flow peaks and removal of natural vegetation and soil covers of areas can cause disruption of the existing relationship between surface and groundwater systems.

I hold the protection of The Hunter River, its tributaries and their alluvial lands as a priority for the NSW Government which should reject this mining proposal to open cut Hunter alluviums.

Sincerely,

Amelia Laffan

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

From: "randjfenwick" <randjfenwick@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 10:43 AM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

I strongly object to the proposal to expand under the Modification proposed. Supplementary to the comments provided earlier, I would like to add the following points that have come to light since:

There are adequate grounds for the refusal of this application and particularly in the light of the emphasis that is being placed on the importance of the availability of water and the production of foods. Mining companies always claim that there will be little or no impact on the land and water and yet time and again they cause irreversible damage. It needs to be noted that:

a. The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005, which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities. It is unfortunate that this system has not yet been fully assessed and applied despite the call for protection of our waterways. If a reasonable assessment was possible to be applied there would be no mining of all areas that fall within the limits of aquifer sources to protect the groundwater and the streams and springs.

b. The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley. No mining enterprise indicates the impacts as such. The continued acquisition and devastation of these resources goes unchallenged and the lands are never returned to any similar state as prior to mining.

c. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river. As was stated in the CSIRO release, reference 10/132, **Groundwater threat to rivers worse than suspected**, "Excessive groundwater development represents a greater threat to nearby rivers and streams during dry periods (low flows) than previously thought". In his address to the Groundwater 2010 conference in Canberra, Dr David Rassam, CSIRO Water for a Healthy Country Flagship scientist, said land-use practices that reduce groundwater recharge into rivers and streams could significantly reduce low flows in nearby rivers and streams. "The yield of an aquifer must be considerably less than recharge to ensure sufficient water to maintain the quantity and quality of low flows in streams, springs, wetlands and other groundwater-dependent ecosystems," Dr Rassam said. "Many people don't realise that groundwater discharge from shallow aquifers to surface water systems represents an environmentally critical component of the flow in most rivers." This reference to discharge from aquifers and impacts on streams also must be considered when mining influences aquifers.

This action by coalmines is far more intensely impacting on the aquifer than any extraction will. Within the information released by the Victorian Auditor General, we are advised that "Groundwater is water that seeps from the surface into porous sands, silts and fractured rocks. Like the surface water in rivers, lakes and dams, it is a finite resource. When rain or snow falls on land some of it evaporates, gets absorbed by plants, flows into streams and rivers, and seeps into the soil. Surface water that seeps into underground spaces 'recharges' groundwater."

The audit examined "whether the use of groundwater resources is sustainable. Specifically, it examined whether water planners and managers use relevant and reliable information to manage the access to, and license the use of, groundwater. It also assessed the effectiveness of licence monitoring and enforcement activities."

Within the recommendations is was considered serious enough for Victoria that the following recommendations were presented:

1. The Department of Sustainability and Environment should:
 - Reconcile its State Observation Bore Network program priorities with available resources to clarify whether refurbishment can occur in a reasonable time frame
 - Update its sustainable water strategies to reflect the longer-term significance of groundwater and its sustainable management, incorporating climate change effects and the connections between ground and surface waters.
2. Water corporations should develop and implement groundwater management plans, or apply local management rules, where appropriate, for all extensively used aquifers.
3. The Department of Sustainability and Environment and water corporations should:
 - Obtain up-to-date and reliable information on the number of groundwater bores, particularly for domestic and stock users
 - Develop strategies to better understand domestic and stock groundwater use and manage its impact on groundwater systems.
4. Water corporations should develop sound risk-based compliance monitoring to detect and deter non-compliance.

If the issue is so high a priority for the control of extraction, which is suggested, to be much less than allocations for any period then it must be taken seriously when considering an industry that will take the aquifers out of the equation for many generations.

d. A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats are worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal. The coal promotes the finances of the multinational with the irrational claims of benefit to the local economy. Admittedly the State benefits from lease and royalty and the Country gains from the taxing of the workers, who mostly are itinerant in today's climate. The region ultimately loses.

e. If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium. This threat to the valley and its ability to produce foods needs to be checked before it is too late.

Ronald W Fenwick
5/11/2010

Bev Smiles
'Inana'
Ringwood Rd
Wollar NSW 2850

Belinda Parker
Mining and Industry Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Friday 5 November 2010

SUBMISSION OF OBJECTION

Hunter Valley Operations North – Carrington West Wing Extension
DA 450 – 10 – 2003 MOD 3

I wish to lodge an objection to the proposal to extend the current Carrington mining operation to include the destruction of 137 ha of alluvial river flat adjacent to the Hunter River.

The Carrington West Wing extension proposes to mine the paleochannel alluvium which has known subsurface gravel braids. These have a high permeability and provide good quality base flows directly to the river system.

The proposal to destroy this ancient alluvial system by mining up to 200 metres from the Hunter River bed should not be approved.

The cumulative loss of high quality agricultural land associated with the river system cannot be continued. This proposal sets a precedent that threatens all remaining fertile river flats in the valley.

It has been previous practice for the NSW Government to protect alluvial aquifer systems. This proposal is a threat to the future integrity of the best farming land available for food production in the Hunter region.

The cumulative loss of base flows from existing Hunter Valley Operations mining activities plus those of adjacent mines and proposals under consideration, such as the Ashton Mine extension, cannot continue without major irreversible damage occurring to the Hunter River system.

The connectivity between groundwater and surface water flows is very complex and has not been adequately assessed for longterm unmitigated impacts.

The proposal will also impact on the highly fragmented remnants of wildlife habitat on the Hunter Valley floor. The record of Powerful Owl use of the area proposed to be destroyed is significant and should not be taken lightly.

The cumulative loss of mature remnants of endangered ecological communities from the Hunter Valley floodplain has not been adequately assessed by the proposal. The loss of hollow bearing trees is of particular significance because of the time it takes for hollows to form in most eucalypt species. Large mature trees also provide a greater food source of nectar and seed for native wildlife.

Declining woodland bird species are particularly impacted by the ongoing loss of mature remnants, as are bats and arboreal mammals.

The possible impact of this proposal on the stand of River Red Gum protected under a previous arrangement with the mining company has not been identified. The River Red Gum Recovery Strategy is an important commitment to protect and enhance a significant remnant of this ecologically endangered community (EEC). This community exists only in isolated fragments on the Valley floor. The recovery of the sub-species in the Hunter may be a marker for recovery of many other threatened species.

The River Red Gum EEC is significant in the Hunter Valley in that it may form the basis for a CMA led catchment-scale recovery programme and may be used to verify the environmental provisions of the Water Sharing Plan process in the Hunter.

This proposal does not identify how the River Red Gum Recovery Strategy will be impacted.

The proposal will produce a minimum of 6.3Mt of greenhouse gas emissions a year. This is irresponsible at a time when State and Federal Governments have committed to a reduction in emissions.

The economic gain from extracting 17m additional tonnes of coal above the current approvals for the Hunter Valley Operations is not worth the long term, irreversible and uncoded damage that this mine extension will impose on current and future generations.

The Department of Planning needs to develop a comprehensive landuse plan for the Hunter coalfields and revisit the Cumulative Impact Study that was conducted in 1998.

The destruction of alluvial aquifers and loss of base flows to the Hunter River cannot continue. This proposal should not be approved.

Yours sincerely

B. Smiles

PETER MALVESTITI
23 VIEW STREET
SINGLETON, 2330

1ST NOVEMBER 2010

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4 NOV 2010

SUBMISSION ON DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

CARRINGTON WEST PIT

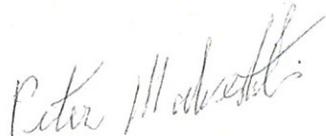
TO THE MINISTER FOR PLANNING

I wish to lodge an objection against the proposal of C&A to mine the floodplain lands along the Lemington road near Warkworth/Jerry's Plains.

Briefly my concerns are:

1. The valuable agricultural lands cannot be rehabilitated with the same agricultural values they presently hold. The area is to become a backfilled void. The surface area will have no depth of soils and loams. It will have poor quality underground water and be unable to sustain the use of bores or wells for agriculture as it once was able. There would be a loss of future food production which must be balanced against the economic benefits of mining.
2. The area is flood prone. The 1955 flood covered the area to a depth of 2.5 meters I have been told by people whose families lived there. If a flood of this magnitude occurred again the whole pit and its workings would be inundated with consequences for water quality and land quality.
3. The altered landscape as a result of mining would mean that a much larger area of private land and farms would be affected by a flood of this magnitude. The EA for this development has dismissed this concern too easily.
4. This development is too close to the Hunter River. A buffer zone has not been applied. There is therefore the prospect that water from the River will seep into the workings and be a net loss to the other water users and the environment. I have no confidence that the bentonite barrier will deliver the necessary assurances that there will be a long term (forever) protection against this. More details about this barrier and its expected performance must be provided. Performance criteria or trigger mechanisms were not supplied nor were remediation measures to be taken should there be a problem.
5. The lack of a precautionary approach in maintaining a buffer zone also raises the concerns that saline water could make its way back into the river.
6. I have great concerns about the amount of dust generated by mining activities in the Hunter Valley and the potential for this to have, over a long term exposure, a negative impact on the health of the community. HVO is a huge mine whose impact on the environment, dust, water, noise and ecology is enormous. It is one of several similarly large mines in the locality creating similar cumulative impacts. I believe that this is an intolerable situation for the people of Singleton so I object to any further mining expansion until a comprehensive and independent cumulative assessment is done for multiple mines affecting noise, dust, water, ecology and health. I support the call for a moratorium on coal developments in the Hunter until the Coal Strategy for the Hunter is completed. I also eagerly await the health Study being conducted for Singleton by NSW Health Department.

Yours sincerely,



Page 1 of 2

0107 AON 7
RECEIVED

From:— My details are as following,
 Ian Hunter Moore,
 "Strathmore"
 Apple Tree Flat,
 Jerry's Plains.NSW 2330
 Ph / Fax 02 65764115

Occupation : — Primary Producer
 Singleton Sire Council Concerned Resident
 2nd November, 2010.

Mining and Industry Projects,
 Department of Planning,
 GPO Box 39,
 Sydney.NSW 2001
 Fax 02 92286466

Dear Sir / Madam,

Re: — Proposed Modification Hunter Valley Operations North
 Carrington West Wing Extension Modification (DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3)

I wish to express my deep concerns and objections to the Modification of Hunter Valley North
 Carrington West Wing Extension Modification Application No. DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3.

Submissions :-- I strongly Object to the Carrington West Wing Extension on the following grounds.

1/ Top Quality Agricultural land such as Hunter River Flats should not be allowed to be mined. For example Hunter Valley Operations have previously rehabilitated other Hunter River Flats and according to them very successfully (They compared the figures with 5 other Lucerne Growers in the area). I strongly dispute their figures of crop production as I have been a commercial Lucerne Grower for more than forty five years in this area, and was not contacted to compare their crops with mine. Also I know the biggest Lucerne Grower in the area was not contacted either. The general consensus of the Lucerne Crop was that at times it was very grassy, which does increase the bulk of the crop, giving more bales. Many of the truck loads were not weighted, if any, as they left the Mine Site. Also the size of the round bales were greatly reduced, this greatly increases the number of bales, to make it look good. I find it virtually impossible and difficult for anyone to know what the real figures actually are.

The amount of money that was put into this rehabilitated land was astronomical to try to achieve a crop, no normal farmer would ever be able to afford these huge sums of money, it would simply not pay. Some farmers who were invited to inspect the site were discussed with what they saw, with the subsidence and the rubbish that was growing on, this so called rehabilitated land.

2/ The Levee Bank that they say will keep High Flood Flows out of the Mine will have astronomical effect on the River System and the landowners up stream, especially at Jerry's Plains with an increase in the height from backed up water in high flood flows. Also down stream the River System will have a gouging effect on the banks, caused by an increase in speed of the high flow by the narrowing of the water flow.

Every High Flood Flows are different, if you look at the Flood Levels in the Jerry's Plains Area during the 1971 Flood compared to the 2007 Flood, the Flood Waters were very different, some are caused by nature others unknown. It is not worth playing around with our River Systems for the sake of a few dollars.

Also if you take into account what the Levee Bank around Singleton did to the Farms at Glenridding and Whittingham in the 2007 Flood. Yes Singleton needed the Levee Bank, but why should the Carrington

Page 2 of 2

West Wing Extension be allowed to go ahead for the sacrifice of others, including our Environment and our River Systems including our Underground Aquifers, which are crucial to the surrounding landowners survival.

The Underground Aquifers in the area are already becoming depleted by the mines in the area.

Hunter Valley Operations can not guarantee that the Water from the Hunter River and the Underground Aquifers is not going to end up in the Carrington West Wing Extension (ie Glennies Creek to name one that is losing Water) and be contaminated forever.

3/ The Noise, Dust and Pollution for the Community of Jerry's Plains and Districts which will be greatly increased with this extension to Carrington West Wing, which will increase the major health issues that are continuing to rise in the area .

The Jerry's Plains community is already experiencing an increase in noise, you can already hear the Shovel Cables, the Rocks getting loaded into the Dump Trucks and the horns signaling when the Trucks are full, this can even be heard as far away as Apple Tree Flat many kilometers away.

In the Newcastle Herald on Sat.30/10/10 there was an article "Coal Dust Warning" it stated that a Senior NSW health official says exposure to coal dust particulates can harm people's health, even if the pollution is within state guidelines. The cumulative impact is out of control.

As this land can not be reclaimed like they say, it is destroyed forever. The damage to the River Systems, and the Underground Aquifers are irreversible, gone or totally contaminated forever, when mixed with the salty water from the Mine workings. This Water that is Australia's Lifeblood will be gone forever, without Water Australia will not survive as we know it today.

The Mines should not be allowed to destroy good agricultural land, it must be left for future generations, there has only been one lot of land made.

Thankyou for allowing me to make this submission in objection to this proposal.

PLEASE let us save this Magnificent Hunter Valley before it is TOO LATE.

Yours sincerely,

Ian H. Moore

I H Moore

GPO Box 5038
SYDNEY NSW 2001

5 November, 2010

The Manager
Mining & Industry Projects
Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

SUBMISSION

Proposed modification - HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS NORTH
CARRINGTON WEST WING EXTENSION MODIFICATION (DA 450-10-2003 MOD3)

I refer to the Environmental Assessment prepared by EMGA/Mitchell McLennan and dated 01/10/10, in support of Coal & Allied Operations Pty Ltd (C&A) proposed Carrington West Wing Extension.

I do not support the proposed modification, subject to my ability to successfully negotiate heads of concern with C&A.

The proposed modification will adversely impact the amenity of our property, "Wandewoi", by way of increased noise & vibration, reduced air quality and reduced visual amenity. The reasons for objections to the proposal are set out in the attached Appendix to the letter.

Yours faithfully



James Moses
Director
RW Moses Pty Ltd & Wandewoi Pty Ltd

APPENDIX – 05 NOVEMBER 2010

SUBMISSION

PREPARED BY:

James Moses

Director

RW Moses Pty Ltd & Wandewoi Pty Ltd

GPO Box 5038

Sydney NSW 2001

IN RESPONSE TO:

Proposed modification

HUNTER VALLEY OPERATIONS NORTH

CARRINGTON WEST WING EXTENSION MODIFICATION (DA 450-10-2003 MOD3)

SUBMISSION

OVERVIEW

Wandewoi is a cattle property, owned by RW Moses Pty Limited & Wandewoi Pty Limited. James & Deborah Moses are Directors of these Moses family companies. Wandewoi has been owned by the Moses family since about 1930.

Coal mining companies began to increase the intensity of mining activities in the Singleton region in the 1960's & 1970's.

The Howick Mine, to the north of Wandewoi, has variously been owned by Clutha, BP Coal, Mitsubishi, etc, until C&A became the now present owner & operator. It is operated as part of C&A's Hunter Valley Operations (HVO) North. The Howick Mine is now comprised of the West Pit, Wilton Pit and in the south of that mining lease, the Mitchell Pit. This mine is currently active and extending in a south easterly direction.

As part of C&A's expansion of mining activities Coal Preparation Plants (HVCPP & LCPP) have been established and mines have been established in the North Pit, Alluvial Lands Project and the Carrington Pit. To the south of the Hunter River, C&A's HVO South mines operate in the Riverview Pit, the Cheshunt Pit and the South Lemington Pit.

In more recent years, mining operations within close vicinity of Wandewoi have been conducted in the Carrington Pit. The current proposal is that mining will be even closer.

While, over the years we have had, on the whole, good relations with C&A, we assess that the closer proximity of mining activities to our property boundaries and to the residences on the property presents us and the mining company with insurmountable conflicts of interest. C&A operate coals mines which, of necessity are noisy, dusty and of limited visual beauty. We own property which used to be in a quiet rural setting, with all the features of 'life on the farm'. Our interests are poles apart.

Under the terms of Development Consent No. DA 450-10-2003, Wandewoi is identified as Property No. "10 – Moses". It is identified, for various reasons relating to noise, air quality, visual amenity, etc., as being in a zone of affectation and subject to acquisition upon request from the landowner. However, the terms of acquisition are such as to prevent achieving full value upon sale to C&A, because there are a number of potential facets of value precluded by not being "presently approved usages" of the property, as well as assuming that mining activities were not present.

(DA 450-10-2003 – Sched 4.1; see also Sched 5.9 for terms of acquisition).

EIS - Vol 1
OCT 2003

64	Wyoming Holstiens
65	Wyoming Holstiens
66	Xstrata Coal Pty Ltd

Legend:

- Red: Land subject to CNA zone of affectation
- Yellow: Land subject to other mine's zone of affectation
- Green: Land subject to perpetual lease
- Blue: Land owned by other mining companies

Map Labels:

- Bayswater Power Station
- WPCPP
- Wambo Mine
- Cumnock No. 1 Colliery
- Pikes Gully Road
- Lemington Road
- Hunter River
- Golden Highway
- Carrington
- North Pit
- Cheshunt
- Riverview
- United
- Lemington South
- Ravensworth/Narama
- LCPP
- NLP
- HVLP
- Liddell Station Road RCT
- NEW

Handwritten Annotations:

- Moses Wandewal (circled in blue)
- Moses/Wandewal (underlined in red)

Numbered Points (1-57):

- 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57

residence
 and land
 and subject to CNA zone of affection
 and subject to other mine's zone of
 in
 and
 park
 and
 and subject to perpetual lease
 and by other mining companies



0 2 4
Kilometres

-  HVO South project approval boundary
-  HVO North current development consent boundary
-  Exploration licence and authorisation boundaries
-  Proposed extension area
-  National Park

Figure 1.2

Local setting

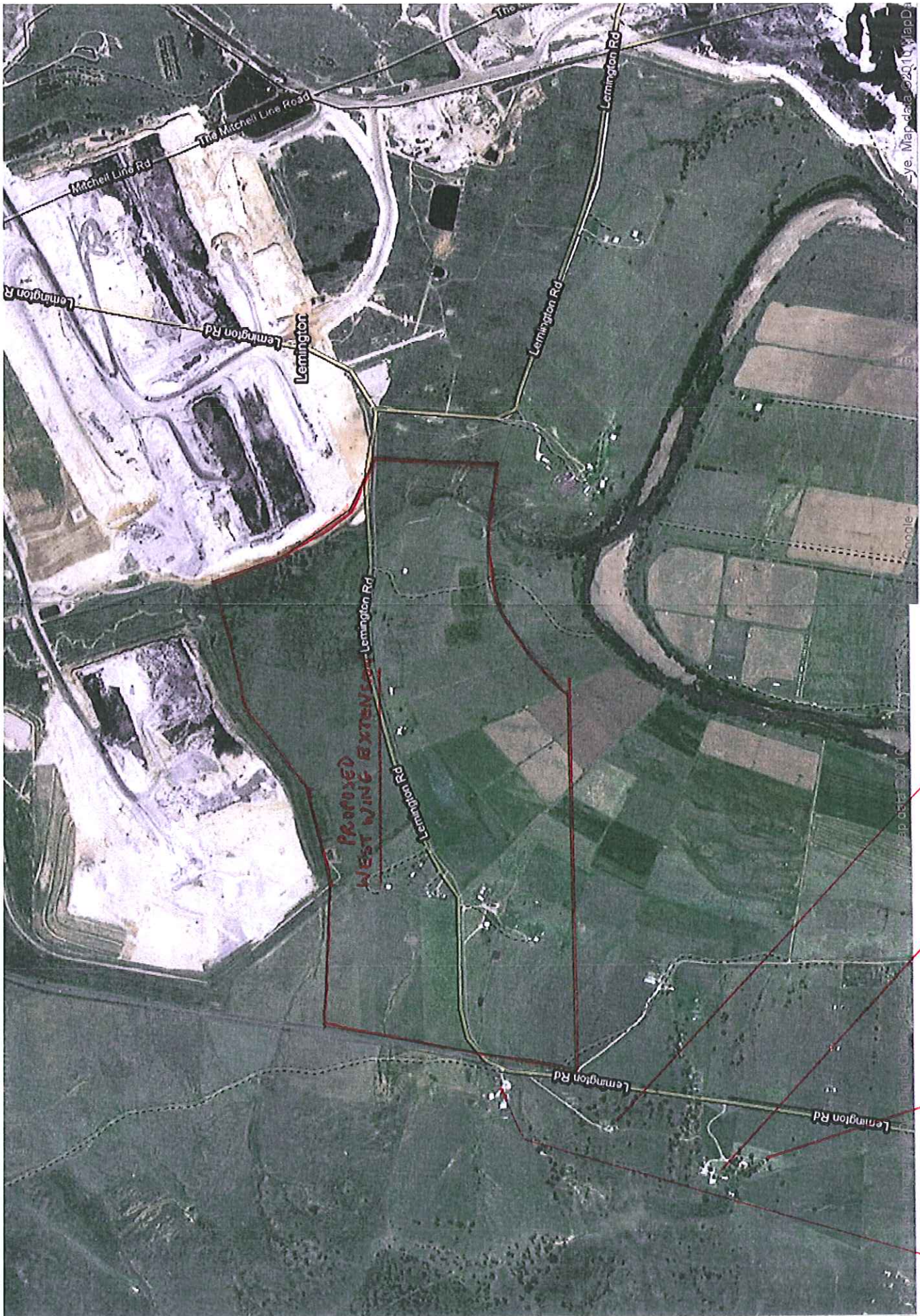
Carrington West Wing

"10-MOSES" / WANDEWOL.

[Get Directions](#) [My Maps](#)[Print](#)[Send](#)[Link](#)

LOCATION OF PROPOSED WEST WING EXTENSION.





PROPOSED
WEST WING EXTENSION - Lemington Rd

YARDS
STABLES
HAYMOW

10 - MOSES

MANAGERS HOUSE

LOTAGE

NOISE & VIBRATION

Machinery Noise

The Environmental Assessment (EA) addresses the problem of generation of noise by plant & machinery. They refer to their assumption of 'worst case' scenario in their modeling, and in their summary conclude that the noise generated "is not predicted to result in any exceedences of consented noise limits at private residences that are not already within a zone of affectation".

The exception in part refers to residences upon Wandewoi, where, at distances of 800 metres to 2,400 metres from the main residence to mine machinery, with elevation and direct line of sight, noise levels will be unavoidably high at the residences, no matter what mitigation remedies are put in place.

Distances from the Wandewoi Cottage to proposed mining activity would be even less at 300 metres to 2,000 metres from the mine site.

(Refer to Table of Distances from Wandewoi to Different C&A Pits)

Data from the following tables give an indication of the noise levels to be anticipated at Wandewoi, during the 6 year life of this proposal.

EA – Appendix F – Noise and vibration study

Table 3.3 Noise projections under calm weather scenario – p. 12

Table 3.4 Predicted noise levels under INP derived weather conditions – p. 15

Figures 3.1 - 3.3 Noise Contours – Year 1, Year 5, Combined Years 1 & 5

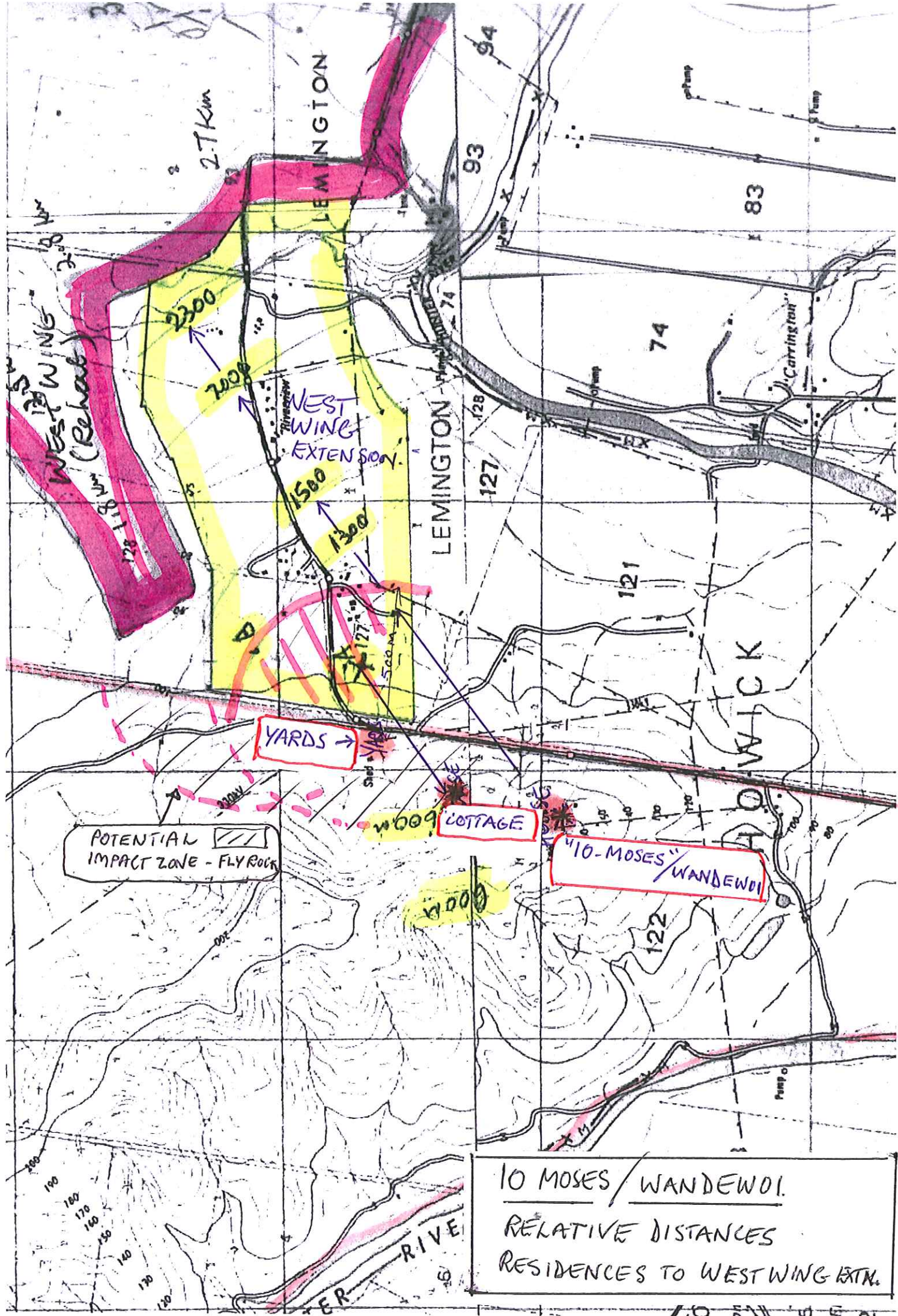
The EA acknowledges the high noise levels expected, but, due to the "zone of affectation/right of acquisition request", does not proceed to identify what efforts of mitigation might be undertaken to reduce the predicted noise levels to acceptable volumes. The EA also does not identify, specifically, the noise levels expected at the Wandewoi Manager's House or the Cottage, each of which is located closer to the noise source than the "10-Moses" monitor. Presumably, noise levels at these locations would be greater than those levels which are shown on the Tables noted above.

EXISTING COAL MINES

APPROX DIRECT DISTANCE FROM "10-MOSES" / WANDEWOI TO IDENTIFIED PIT

REF: SUBMISSION /HVO NORTH - CARRINGTON WEST WING EXTENSION MODIFICATION (DA 450-10-2003 MOD3)

MINE NAME	FROM WANDEWOI HOMESTEAD			FROM NEAREST WANDEWOI BOUNDARY		
	MIN METRES	MAX METRES	DIRECTION	MIN METRES	MAX METRES	DIRECTION
WEST PIT	4,000	9,000	N	400	6,000	NE
CARRINGTON PIT	2,500	3,800	NE	1,400	3,000	E
- WEST WING	1,800	2,800	NNE	200	1,400	E
NORTH PIT	3,000	4,000	E	3,000	4,000	E
RIVERVIEW	4,000	7,000	SE	4,000	7,000	SE
CHESHUNT	5,000	8,000	ESE	5,000	8,000	ESE
NEW WEST WING PROPOSAL	800	2,400	NE	100	1,800	E



10 MOSES / WANDEWOL
RELATIVE DISTANCES
RESIDENCES TO WEST WING EXTN.

Table 3.3 Noise projections under calm weather scenario - $L_{eq,15\text{minute}}$ dB(A)

Location	Day, evening and night time		Consent limits
Receptor No.	Year 1	Year 5	Day/Evening/Night
1	20	19	38-40
2	21	20	39
3	23	21	39
4	30	27	36-40
5	21	19	35
6	20	17	35
7 ¹	30	29	36-40
8 ³	35	34	NA
10 ²	48	45	NA (Acquisition)
11 ³	31	30	39
13 ⁴	14	10	40
14 ⁴	12	9	40
39	16	10	35

1. These private residences are currently inside a zone of affectation or subject to a private land holders agreement with mines other than HVO.

2. These private residences are currently inside a HVO zone of affectation or subject to a private land holders agreement.

3. Mine owned.

4. Additional Jerrys Plains locations were added to provide a better representation of the area.

3.6 Predicted noise levels - prevailing weather conditions

Under various wind and temperature gradient conditions, noise levels may increase or decrease compared with calm conditions, ie zero wind and negligible temperature gradient. This is due to refraction of sound propagating through the atmosphere, brought about by a change in sound speed with height. Sound levels increase when the wind blows from source to receiver or under temperature inversion conditions and decrease when the wind blows from receiver to source or under temperature lapse conditions.

The INP sets out recommended procedures to assess noise under a range of meteorological conditions. Specific adverse meteorological conditions which are referred to as 'INP weather conditions' are typically used in assessments, in lieu of monitored data. Site specific hourly weather data was obtained and analysed to establish relevant 'feature' weather conditions (as defined in the INP). These were used for modelling purposes and are consistent with the conditions assessed in the *West Pit Extension and Minor Modifications Environmental Impact Statement*, ERM 2003, ie a range of INP wind conditions, as defined by ERM (2003), and a 3°C/ 100m temperature inversion.

Table 3.4 indicates that without mitigation, predicted noise levels for adverse INP weather conditions are above the consent noise limits for eight of the assessed locations. For Year 1, conservative predictions are up to 4dB higher than the acquisition limits for Receptor's No.1 to 3, up to 3dB higher for Receptor No.13 and 2dB higher for Receptor No.14.

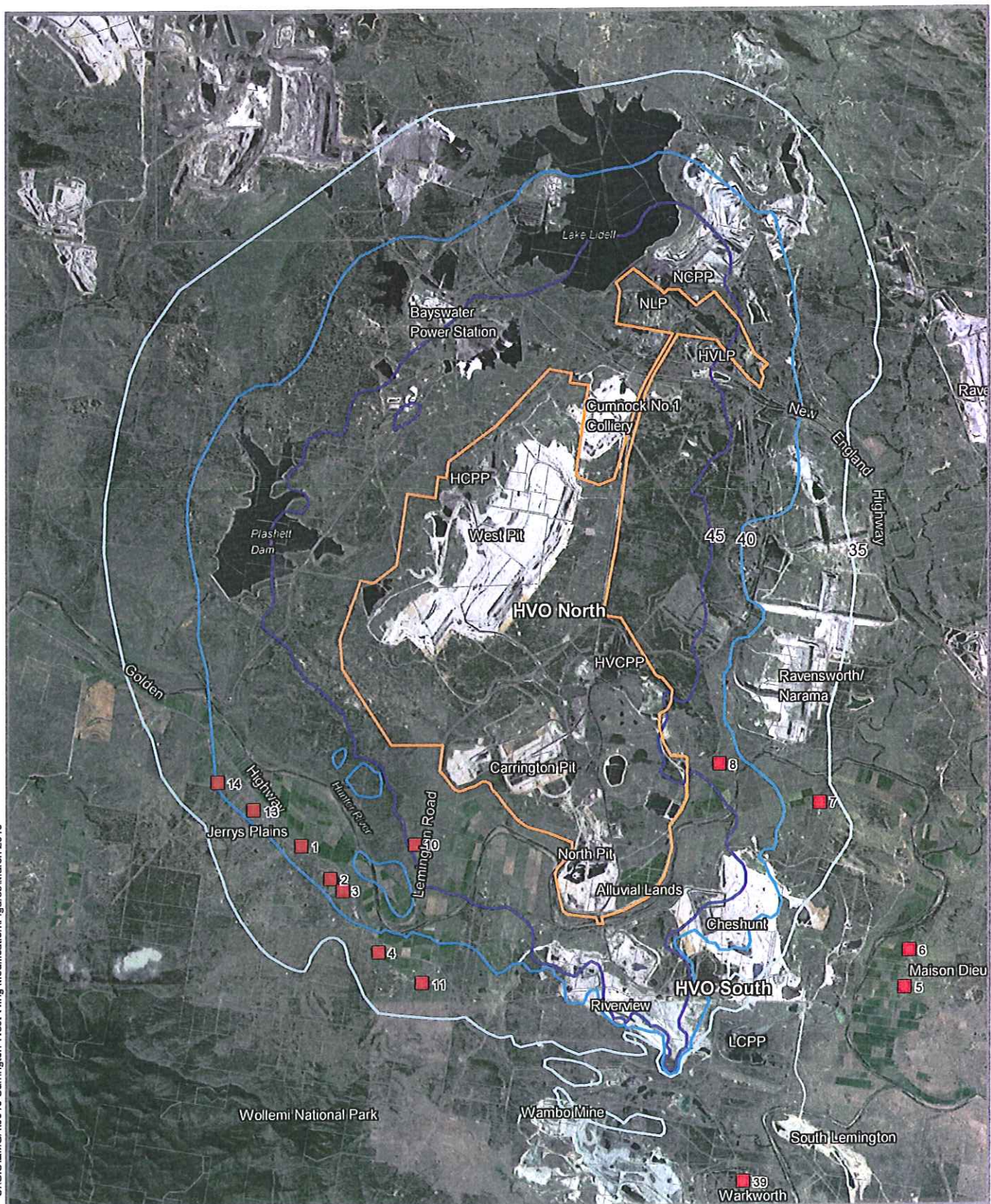


Figure 3.1

Year 1 Night time Leq, 15minute Operational Noise Levels - INP Weather, dB(A)

Carrington West Wing Modification



0 2.5 5
Kilometres

Noise Contour, dB(A)

35

40

45

Receptors

HVO North current development consent boundary

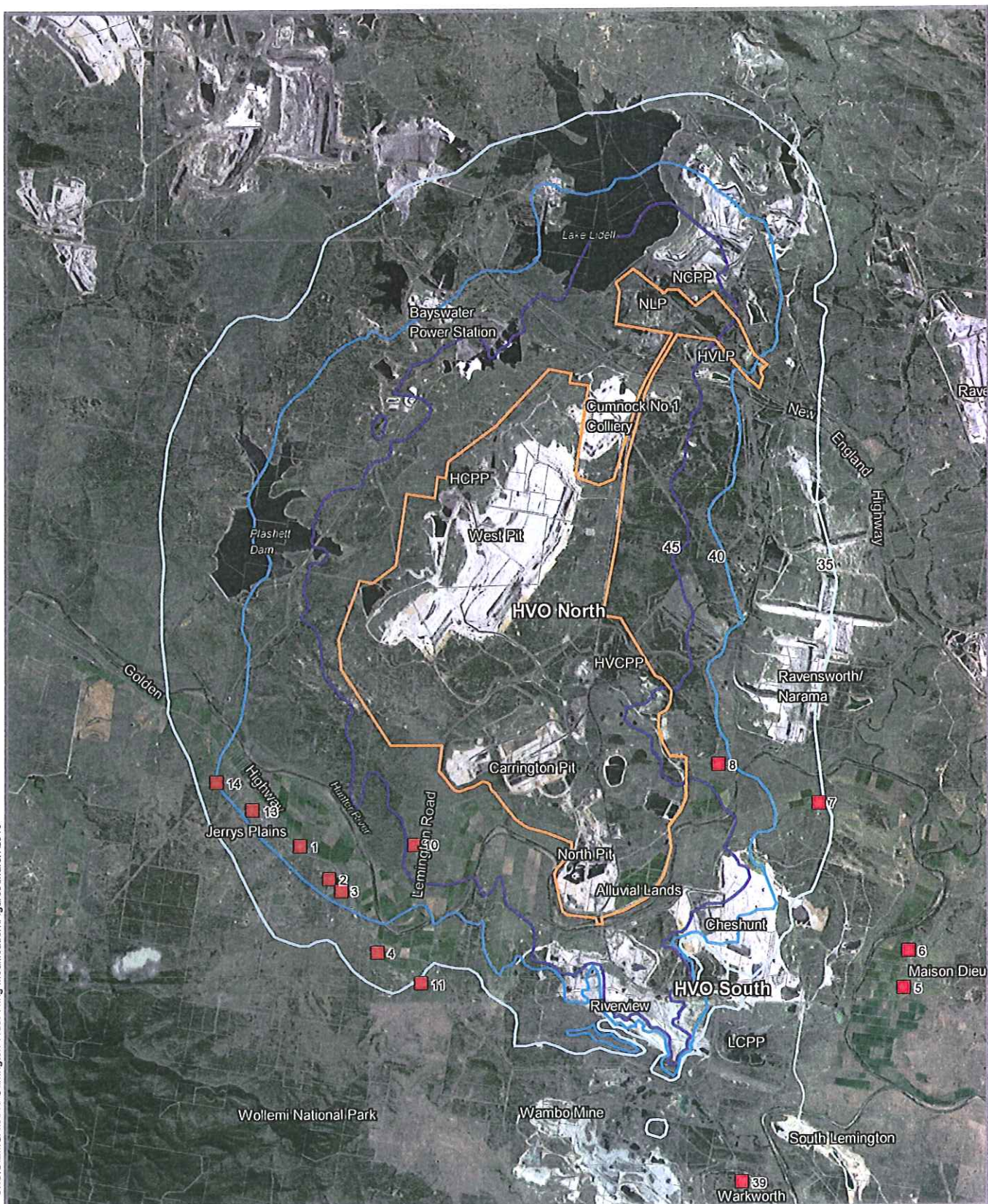


Figure 3.2

Year 5 Night time Leq, 15minute Operational Noise Levels - INP Weather, dB(A)

Carrington West Wing Modification



0 2.5 5
Kilometres

Noise contour, dB(A)

35

40

45

Receptors

HVO North current development consent boundary

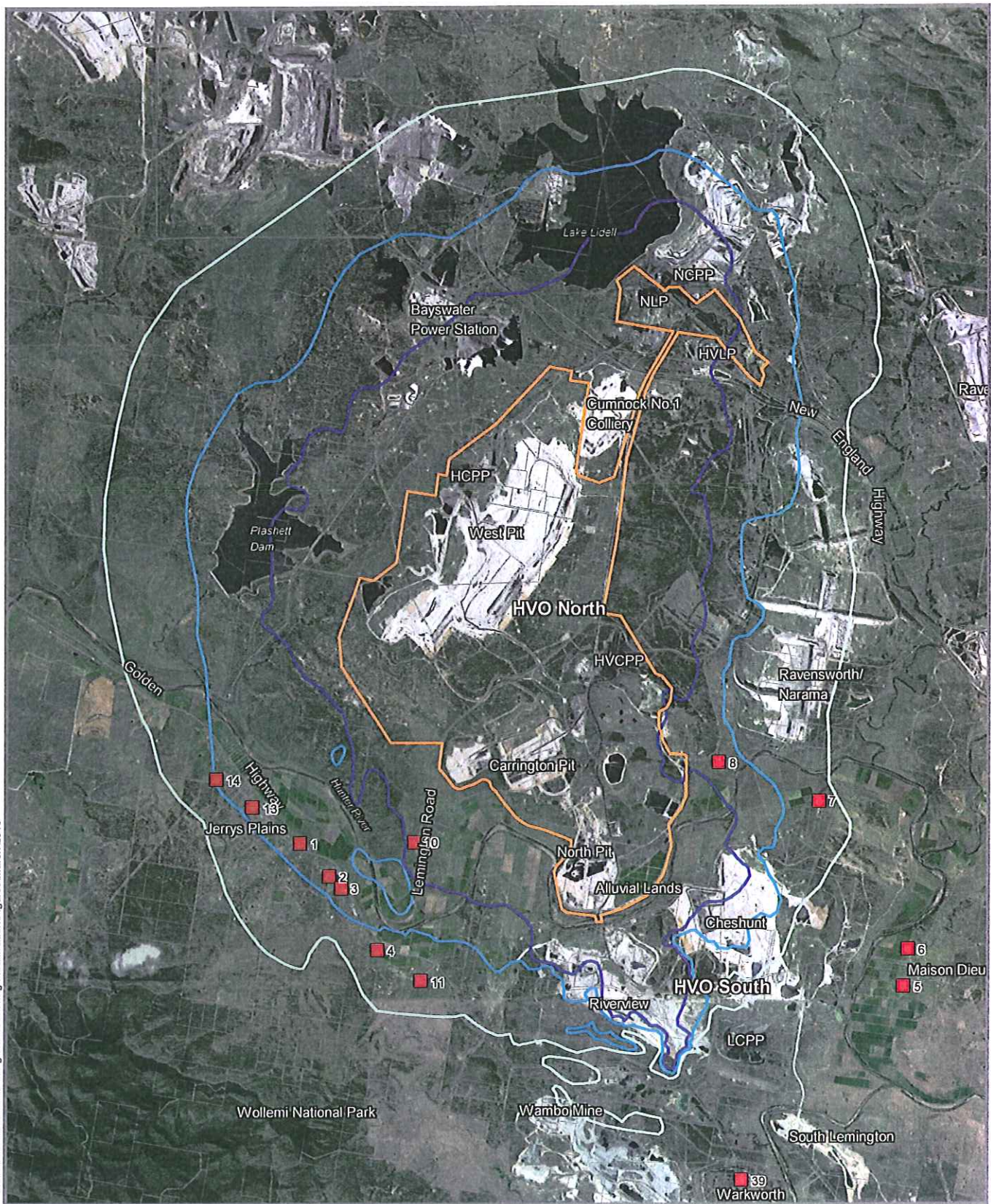


Figure 3.3

Year 1 and 5 Combined Night time Leq, 15minute
Operational Noise Levels - INP Weather, dB(A)

Carrington West Wing Modification



0 2.5 5
Kilometres

Noise contour, dB(A)



Receptors

HVO North current development
consent boundary

Sleep Disturbance

Sleep disturbance is an important factor for the residences at Wandewoi. Various levels of noise are predicted by the models and they are recognised to be high at Wandewoi. The EA addresses the fact that intermittent noise can be disturbing to sleep patterns. Examples are given of “shovel gates banging, truck engines revving fast and vehicle reversing alarms”. I would also add “dozer tracks while in reverse and loads being dumped into trucks”.

Sleep patterns for individuals vary during the night from sound sleep to light sleep. An individual’s level of relaxation or state of tension will also impact upon their ability to get a good night’s sleep. Being aware of the noise source as a “problem” will exacerbate the ability of the individual to get to sleep in the first place.

C&A is aware of problems we have experienced, over a long period of time, with noise disturbance at Wandewoi. While reports of the problems have been infrequent, noise has impacted upon the residences on a consistent basis. As a result, we have had to deal with management of employee relations which would otherwise not have existed. Small issues become compounded when associated with reduced quality of sleep.

Blasting

In 2009 HVO North & South recorded 440 at 6 monitoring sites, as required by their licence conditions. In my summary of those data points, recorded at 10-Moses / Wandewoi, I noted (missing 2 items of data - error):

	Blasts	% of total	Av. Per blast	Approx Distance to “10-Moses”
Carrington Pit	77	18%	95.42dB	3,000 metres
Cheshunt	162	37%	95.49dB	6,500 metres
Riverview	63	14%	96.27dB	5,500 metres
West Pit	136	31%	97.27dB	6,500 metres

The results of monitoring produced data which were within the licence guidelines – absolute maximum of 120dB (set out at Table 12 – Appendix B – Development Consent No. DA 450-10-2003 at page 11).

However, the origin of each of those blasts was located at distances substantially greater than the distance from blast site contemplated under this proposal.

Data in Table 4.1 (Appendix F – P. 25) indicates that a charge of 35kg MIC will produce a noise overpressure of 115dB at “10-Moses” at a distance of 900 metres. This quantity of explosive is, in terms of mine blasting, a very small charge.

Additional information has been sought from C&A and the data provided indicates that, if a charge of “economic size”, say 500kg to 900kg MIC, were to be employed the resultant overpressure created would be from about 119dB_L to 126dB_L – depending upon the distance from the blast (Refer to Table below).

We note that the Cottage at Wandewoi would be at less distance from the blast site than those distances considered in relation to the “10-Moses / Wandewoi” monitoring site. This distance would vary between about 600 metres to 2,000 metres.

Our cattle yards & stables would be even closer. This distance would vary between about 300 metres to 1,900 metres.

These sites would be subjected to greater overpressure impacts than those levels indicated by the EA report or further information sought from C&A.

Table – What blast overpressure could be expected from a blast of “economic size”, say 500kg to 900kg MIC, at distances of 900 metres (minimum distance quoted in the EA report) to 1,500 metres (estimated average distance during the life of the mine)

REFER TO "RECEPTOR NO. 10" - MOSES		
DISTANCE METRES	BLASTRONICS 95% NOISE OVERPRESSURE Dbl at 500kg MIC	BLASTRONICS 95% NOISE OVERPRESSURE Dbl at 900kg MIC
900	124dB _L	126dB _L
1500	119dB _L	121dB _L

Ground vibration from blasts should also be considered. While Peak Particle Velocity (PPV) in the EA report data is low (1.1mm/s at 900 metres with 35kg MIC), results from larger “economic size” charges are likely to yield PPV values which will exceed guidelines at distances of less than 900 metres.

At distances of around 1,500 metres, results are more likely to fall within guidelines.

It is anticipated that depending upon the size of the blast, overpressure will become a limiting factor before PPV problems are evident.

Table – Ground Vibration - If 5400kg MIC yields 10mm/s peak particle velocity at the bridge at 2500m (P.26), what size of charge would be required to give 10mm/s (and 5mm/s) at our residence at a distance of 900m and, also at 1500m from the site of the blast?

REFER TO "RECEPTOR NO. 10" - MOSES		
DISTANCE METRES	kg MIC TO ACHIEVE BLASTRONICS 95% GROUND VIBRATION PPV of 5mm/s	kg MIC TO ACHIEVE BLASTRONICS 95% GROUND VIBRATION PPV of 10mm/s
900	268kg	698kg
1500	745kg	1938kg

Blasting - Fly Rock

Fly rock is an additional problem to be addressed. The report indicates that 500 metres from a blast site is a minimum safe distance with regard to fly rock. The Wandewoi cattle yards are situated on the Eastern boundary of Wandewoi, adjacent to the proposed mine site. About 25% of the proposed area lies within 500 metres of this boundary. This creates a risk to be managed with regard to personnel on Wandewoi. However, we also run cattle and horses upon the land adjacent to the proposed site and it is presumed that these animals and animal husbandry activities will be placed at risk during blast events.

We should not be expected to re establish our long standing management practices to accommodate nearby blasting activities.

Problems with fly rock are familiar to all who deal in the industry and local incidents emphasize the potentially serious nature of the problem (e.g. Camberwell – rock found substantial distance from blast

4 Blasting noise and vibration

4.1 Human annoyance criteria

Typically, blasting at HVO North occurs once per day, however, it is not uncommon for two blasts to be undertaken in one day at larger mines or mines having multiple pits. Blasts can occur regularly on consecutive days throughout the majority of the year.

The blast design and corresponding air blast overpressure and ground vibration are within the control of operators. The existing blast management strategy, as detailed in the HVO Blast and Vibration Management Plan and Coal & Allied environmental procedure for blasting, will be used to ensure appropriate charge masses are designed for blasting. Such charge masses (or maximum instantaneous charge, MIC) are presented in Table 4.1. These were derived from 95 per cent formulas in Blastronics Pty Limited publication for monitoring data collected at similar mines in the Hunter Valley.

The data provides an indication of the likely MIC that should be considered a maximum to achieve the blast noise and vibration limits at sensitive receptor locations. Generally the blast overpressure noise dictates the required MIC needed to meet the limits, as shown in bold. Exceptions are locations at relatively large distances from blasting where the empirical formulae suggest ground vibration is the limiting factor. However, the accuracy of the formulae is diminished at these longer distances. The main observation of note in the results is that Receptor No.10 will be too close to allow for any practical blasts to occur and hence arrangements must be made well in advance of any blasts within 900m of this residence.

Table 4.1 Carrington blast calculations

Receptor No.	Closest blast distance to proposed extension area, m	MIC to achieve limit, kg	Blastronics 95% noise overpressure, dBL	Blastronics 95% ground vibration, PPV, mm/s
1	3300	1734	115.0	2.9
2	2900	1177	115.0	2.7
3	2800	1059	115.0	2.6
4	3200	1581	115.0	2.9
5	9700	31160	113.8	5.0
6	9500	29888	113.9	5.0
7 ¹	6800	15176	115.0	5.0
8 ³	4600	4697	115.0	3.7
10 ²	900	35	115.0	1.1
11 ³	3600	2251	115.0	3.1
13 ⁴	4200	3575	115.0	3.5
14 ⁴	5000	6030	115.0	4.0
39	9700	31160	113.8	5.0

1. These private residences are currently inside a zone of affectation or subject to a private land holders agreement with mines other than HVO.

2. These private residences are currently inside a HVO zone of affectation or subject to a private land holders agreement.

3. Mine owned.

4. Additional Jerrys Plains locations were added to provide a better representation of the area.

site and well within a neighbouring boundary). The risk of being hit is probably slight, but the consequence of being hit could be life threatening. It is therefore, serious.

AIR QUALITY

Air quality is a complex issue with impacts to be expected from a number of diverse sources within the environment. The impact of dust deposition upon Wandewoi residences will be increased by the acceptance of the proposal. Year 1 identifies the maximum impact upon the main residence area as extreme and in years thereafter, at decreasing levels. The impact upon the Cottage and the Hayshed/Stables/Yards area is not specifically noted, apart from indications from maps of predicted dust deposition levels, where those locations will be subject to higher levels of dust deposition. The impact of dust deposition upon our pastures will increase, as shown by the EA report.

Our impression over the years is that, as a result of being in an area in which coal mining activities are conducted, Wandewoi has been subjected in increased dust loads. This proposal will increase that impact. Individual resident and working on the farm have the perception that dust is a problem and, apart from the reality of increased dust load, we have to manage the perceptions of an increased dust problem.

The reality becomes increasingly evident when houses are cleaned and the dust is found upon open surfaces. Dust also collects upon roof areas which also are the source of our collection of rain water for domestic purposes. And so our problem compounds.

VISUAL AMENITY

The EA report assesses that, due to the existence of a number of mines in the area and the relatively short mine life (6 years), the “visual impacts of the proposal are not expected to be significant”.

However, it is again noted that this proposal will be situated at a much closer proximity to all residences upon Wandewoi. It is also to be noted that Wandewoi was confronted with the development of the Carrington Pit, which was presented as a mine with a limited life. Likewise the North Pit and the Alluvial Lands Project were also presented with limited life spans. The problem for the residents of Wandewoi is that the coal resource within the area is considerable and when one mine finishes, another mine proposal arises to further exploit the resource. It is anticipated that there are other mining projects which will continue within this local area. The present mine lease is indicated to expire in 2025.

Attached are images of view from the main residences on Wandewoi, with areas shaded in red to show the approximate area within the view which will be impacted by this proposal.

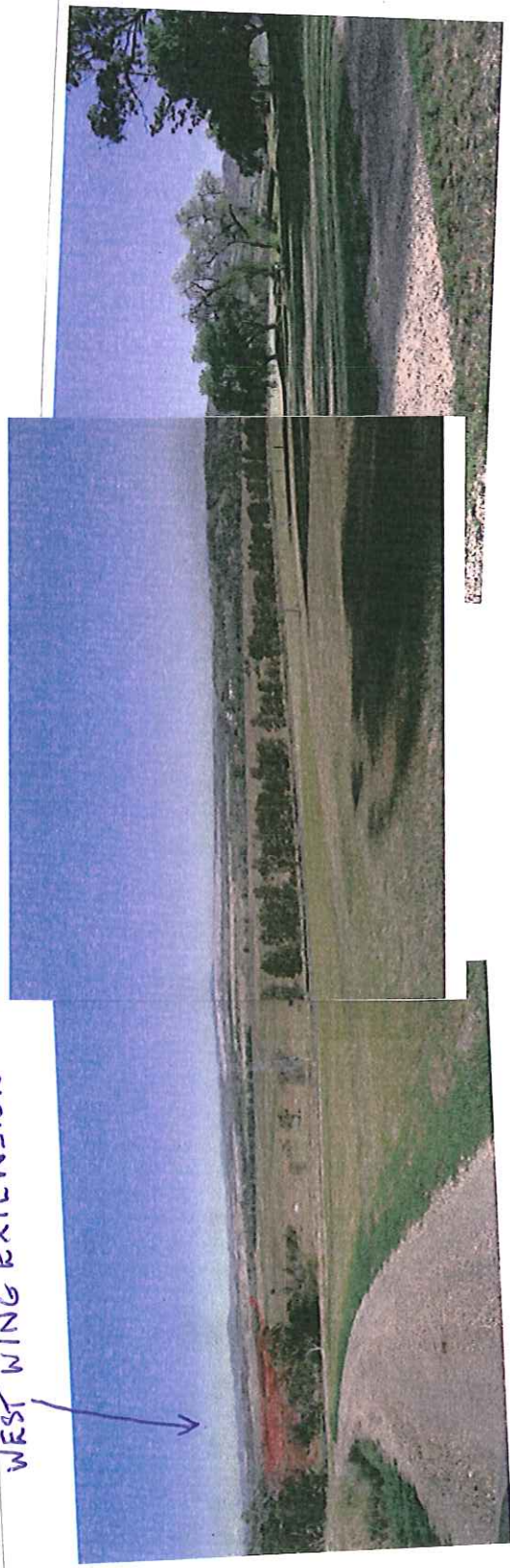
Another series of images shows the view from the hill to the West of the Cattle Yards, looking East over the proposal area (marked in red shading).

The visual impact for Wandewoi is considerable and the cumulative result is truly significant.

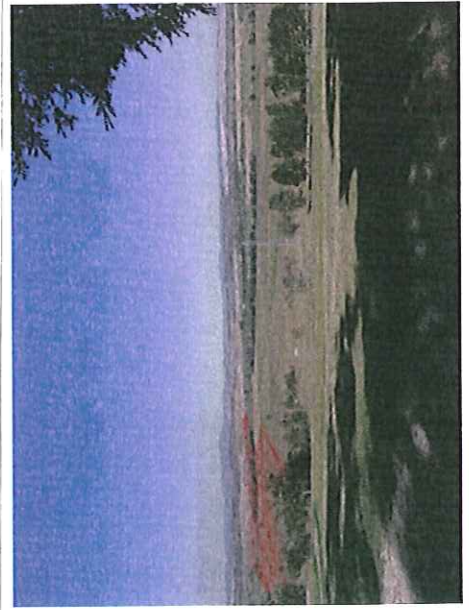
Another aspect of the visual amenity will adversely impact upon Wandewoi will be the use of night lighting within the proposed area. Wandewoi is situated in an elevated position relative to the proposed mine site and the use of night lighting will unavoidably increase the illumination of the residences by either direct line of sight to the light sources or by reflected/refracted illumination.

At the very least the visual impacts will compound the perceptions of adverse impacts of this proposal.

WEST WING EXTENSION



VIEW FROM WANDEWOI - EAST





VIEW FROM WANDEWOI TO WEST WING EXTENSION



WANDUWOI HOMESTEAD



"10-MOSES" MONITORING STATION



"10 - MOSES" - VIEW TO PROPOSAL AREA - REJ

Photograph 5.1

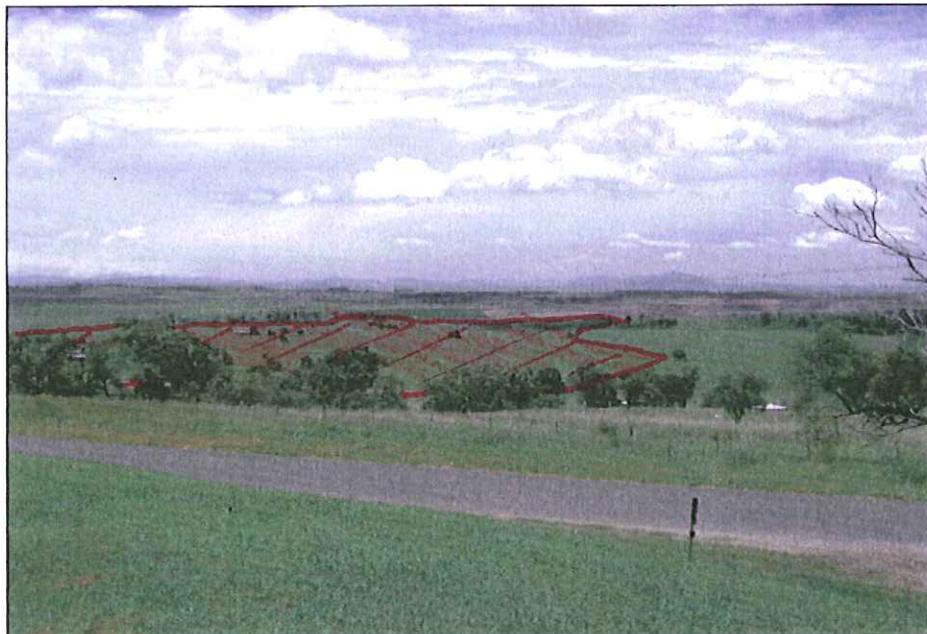
Viewpoint 1, Lemington Road facing east towards the project area

- ADJACENT
TO
WANDEWOI
CATTLE YARDS

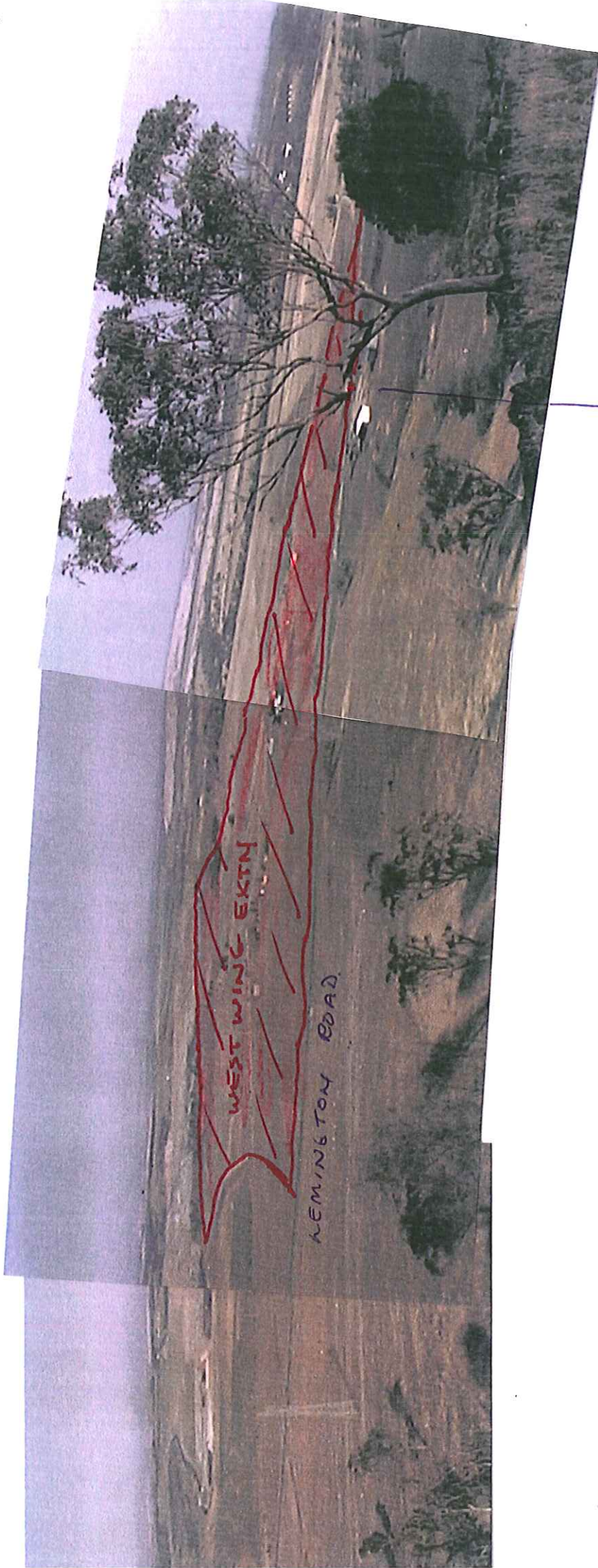


Photograph 5.2

Viewpoint 2, adjacent landholder facing north-east towards the project area



(about 150 metres from Wandewoi Cottage.)



VIEW FROM WANDENOI - EAST.

YARDS STABLES
HAYSHED

TRAFFIC

Traffic flows along the Lemington Road have increased enormously over the years during which mining activities have expanded in the local area. The original road traversed directly in front of the homestead and was subject to a milk truck twice per day and a couple of local vehicles. The continuation of mining in the area guarantees the existence of the road in its present condition and this can be seen as a benefit.

On the other hand, traffic levels are greatly increased in volume, speed and individual load. These changes impact cumulatively upon Wandewoi and it should be recognized that the increased traffic loads increase the risk to our employees as they frequently are required to use the road and surrounds for access to the farm with machinery and also for the movement of livestock. Anecdotally, our employees report that road users often have “no respect for cattle and dogs and how difficult it is to move them under control”.

This is a reality to be dealt with at Wandewoi, but it must be recognized that a project which will recover 3.0m tonnes of ROM coal and handle 10m bank cub. metres of overburden per year, will have a sizeable work force and equipment maintenance requirements and this will result in maintaining traffic volume.

CUMULATIVE IMPACT

Wandewoi is now suffering substantial cumulative impacts as a result of these various large scale mining developments in the locality.

VOLUNTARY ACQUISITION

We are concerned that if we exercise our right of voluntary acquisition **for this development**, the acquisition price would be reduced due to the significant impacts of earlier nearby and adjoining mining developments where we previously had acquisition rights. It would be most unreasonable if we were to exercise voluntary acquisition that the value of our property might be discounted due to these earlier mining developments and encroachments.

CONCLUSION

Wandewoi has been a Moses family property since 1930 and the family has had expectations of being able to continue to own and operate this property as a farming venture.

The property is one of the few remaining grazing ventures in this area of the Hunter Valley.

This proposal to extend the Carrington West Wing, is the latest in a string of mining projects which have and will continue to be active within the local area around Wandewoi for at least the next 10 years and probably longer.

Wandewoi has been impacted to various extents by past mining activity.

This current proposal is the closest and most intrusive project to impact upon Wandewoi, so far.

The reality is that, this project, with a stated net worth of \$482 million, will produce adverse impacts upon the amenity of Wandewoi, such that it will be no longer tenable for the Moses family to continue to own and operate this farm.

These issues of concern must be addressed by C&A with the Moses Family, before the project can be allowed to continue.

From: Graham Brown <gbrown@ipstarmail.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 7:38 pm
Subject: H.V.O. Carrington West Extension.

RECEIVED
5 NOV 2010

Dear Planning Officers,

Re: Hunter Valley Operations Carrington West Extension

I'm writing in order to object to the above mining proposal on these grounds?

1. The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
2. The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
3. The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
4. A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
5. If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Please consider my objection most seriously.

Cheers.

Graham Brown.

Gungal,2333

Naomi Nelson - Objection to DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

From: "Jennifer More" <jennifermore@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 5:10 PM
Subject: Objection to DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3

RECEIVED
5 NOV 2010

Dear Department of Planning

DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

I am writing to object to this expansion:

The proposal is too close to the Hunter River and may have negative impacts on the water quality – above and below ground.

The proposal threatens prime agricultural land.

The proposal will result in short-term benefits only and threatens long-term natural assets.

Please stop any further new coal mines, or expansions of existing ones, and consider our sustainable natural resources first.

Regards
Jenny More

T 02 6379 0871
31 Mudgee Street; PO Box 145 Rylstone NSW 2849

Naomi Nelson - Govt with no shame

From: Maralyn Bennett <coombagundy@westnet.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 3:45 PM
Subject: Govt with no shame

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

re: **DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3**
Hunter Valley Operations North -
Carrington West Wing Extension

Despoiling the land is one serious problem.

It is also increasingly clear that a form of insanity prevails with authorities and agencies and governments who are approving this and other applications to mine coal and burn coal in this country, sending the coal and its profits to be burned in other countries and also refusing to fast-track alternative forms of energy for coal and oil.

Climate change denial appears increasingly absurd as the polar regions melt with alarming speed.

Science has uncovered a previous period of excessive CO2 in the atmosphere some millions of years ago.

The result? Extinction of almost all life forms within TWO DECADES of the optimal pollution of the atmosphere.

The cut off point for our hastening of this charming event? The year 2015.

Not only does it seem like too little too late, we in this country seem hell-bent on bringing the date forward to any-minute-now.

You cannot breathe coal

Please re-consider the approval of these Das in the name of caring for the land, the air we breathe and our future.

Dr Maralyn J Bennett.

Naomi Nelson - Protest re Rio Tinto mining

From: "Antoinette Griffiths" <netti5@aapt.net.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 4:33 PM
Subject: Protest re Rio Tinto mining

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

To Whom it may concern,

As a concerned citizen of the Hunter Valley I wish to voice a strong condemnation of the plan to mine so close to the Hunter River. I firmly believe that as citizens we have a moral duty to protect our environment not rip up our countryside because it suits us in one way or another. I will continue to support all protests against coal mining with a strong belief that commonsense and responsibility will win out in the end. I am against your proposal on the following grounds.

- The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
- A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
- If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium

Yours sincerely,

Antoinette Griffiths 02 49328 665

From: Roland Bannister <rsbannister@gmail.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 5/11/2010 9:06 pm
Subject: Rio Tinto's Hunter coal mining proposal

RECEIVED

5 NOV 2010

Dear Planning

I write to object to Rio Tinto's proposal to mine 137ha prime alluvial river flat within 200m of the Hunter River to extract 17m tonnes of coal. I believe that a healthy rural agricultural character in the Hunter will be of greater value in the long term than another enormously profitable coal mining endeavour.

My family were in both agriculture and mining in the Hunter for many years, and I feel confident that they would cringe could they see the wreckage caused by mining here in the valley that they all cherished.

Mining must be phased out: agricultural industry must be encouraged.

Regards

Roland Bannister
PO Box 68
Mayfield NSW 2304
Ph +61 (0)2 49674273

5th November 2010



To Department of Planning

DA 450-10-2003 Mod3

Hunter Valley Operations North Carrington West wing extension.

We totally against any company or government to consider the destruction of our aquifers and destroy agricultural land beyond state of no return.

Australia being one of the driest continents we should be securing all water for food production and ensure sustainability and responsibility to the community and future generation to have resource which is permanent.

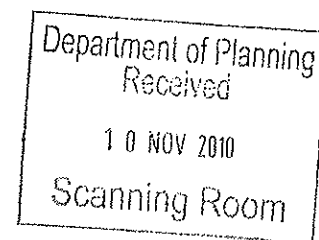
Coal being a non-renewable and the extraction of this mineral causes significant damage to our environment, health and sustainability for further development. The corporations are responsible to the community to ensure they provide permanent sustainable resource for future generations, actions of interfering with water and agriculture, heritage and health should be considered before making an application. When perusing this application they have only considered themselves on a profit and government on short term royalty's gain, not to ensure future generations of their rights to employment or access to water and other industries and population centres right to clean permanent resource.

This land and water is too important and we require a whole new approach in protection and sustainability for future generations, with increase in population and limited productive land/water resource we cannot be complacent.

Regards

THELMA DE JONG.
J De Jong.

65761221.



2 Pagan Street

Jerry's Plains NSW 2330

RECEIVED

15 NOV 2010

10th November, 2010

To: Department of Planning

Re: Objection to Coal & Allied (C&A) HVO North - West Pit Consent 2003 - Modification 3

We wish to object to the current proposal put forward by Coal & Allied to mine alluvial flats near Jerry's Plains.

We feel that there are a number of issues not covered adequately in the current EA that need consideration. Are C&A really concerned about the impact their mining activities will have on the prime farming land and alluvial plains surrounding the mine? This land is the livelihood of many farmers and to have more of it desecrated by further mining would be detrimental for the people that live in the area.

We are Lucerne farmers and require stable and fertile soils and continuity of underground streams to grow our crops. We require stable levels of the Hunter River to ensure that we have enough water to irrigate those crops. With the envisaged rise in the level of the river by the stated 1 metre, is C&A going to volunteer to come and pull our pumps out when required as this will change the height of the river during flood times and times of excessive rain?

There is also the problem of when in these times of flood and excessive rain, the river level rises an additional metre higher than it would have otherwise risen resulting in greater flooding to our river flats which will cause more extensive damage to our farming land. This is unacceptable as this land is our livelihood.

Once C&A is finished mining the flats, they will no longer be suitable for growing crops or farming in the future. The ground will be filled with rock and topsoil placed on top that won't hold water for irrigation purposes, therefore wasting water and it will just seep straight through the ground. The aqua flow will be ruined – these underground streams will be broken and seep into the river.

Mining activity in the area has already had a negative impact on land values which is a major concern. With properties in the vicinity of the operations exposed to noise, dust, light and vibrations impacts there are few buyers for the land. There are residents within the exclusion zone and just outside it that cannot sell their properties.

The amount of mining that is closing in on the already substantially reduced area at Jerry's Plains is growing at a tremendous rate and is as a result making it almost impossible to sell our properties.

As a farmer and ex coalminer, I object to any coal mining on any agricultural ground.

Yours sincerely,

Terry & Lynne Bennett

RECEIVED

05 NOV 2010

N.S.W. GOVERNMENT
DEPT OF PLANNING
5/11/10

CARRINGTON WEST WING EXTENSION MODIFICATION.

DA-K50-10-2003 MOD 3.

DEAR SIR,

I WISH TO EXPRESS MY OPPOSITION TO THE CARRINGTON^{TON} WEST
EXTENSION, FOR THE FOLLOWING REASONS.

- ① INCREASE IN NOISE AND COAL DUST FOR THE RESIDENTS' L
TERRYS PLAINS AND DISTRICT
- ② THE DESTRUCTION OF PRIME AGRICULTURAL LAND
- ③ FORCING WATER LEVELS UPSTREAM IN TIME OF
FLOOD TO RISE
- ④ THE DESTRUCTION OF UNDERGROUND AQUIFERS
AND INCREASE IN SALINITY WITHIN OUR RIVER
SYSTEM.

REGARDS

Don Barry *Don Barry*

Don Barry

109 APPLE TREE FLAT RD

TERRYS PLAINS - 2330

Susanne Mary Skates	Phone: 02 4994 9226 Susanne: 0428 198 521 ABN: 45 596 839 731
116 Washpool Road, Booral. NSW 2425	Email: ar.smskates@skymesh.com.au

NSW Planning
plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au

RECEIVED

To whom it may concern

4 NOV 2010

Re; DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3
 Hunter Valley Operations North - Carrington West Wing Extension

4 NOV 2010

Dear Sir or Madam,

I strongly object to this development and urge the planning department, the minister and government to reject this application for the following reasons.

- The proposal contravenes the draft Management Stream/Aquifer Systems in Coal Mining Developments 2005 which gives alluvial aquifers a 150m buffer from mining activities.
- The proposal will result in a cumulative loss of class 1 & class 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley
- The proposal will destroy the alluvial aquifer and remove base flows from the river
- A healthy Hunter River system and its productive river flats is worth more to society in the long term than 17m tonnes of coal.
- If approved this proposal will set a precedent threatening the rest of the Hunter alluvium.

Yours sincerely,

Susanne M. Skates

4 November 2010

RECEIVED

04 NOV 2010

Department of Planning
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

Fax: 02 9228 6466

Re: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3 HV North West Pit Extension

We are once again objecting to another outrageous mining proposal by Rio Tinto & Coal & Allied.

As a Community Consultative Committee representative for Hunter Valley Operations I am continually disappointed with the lack of consultation with the community by Coal & Allied. They continue with their one on one approach so as segregate the community. Community members have to source the information for themselves. More letters from Coal & Allied detailing proposals and activities, public display and submission periods should be sent to near neighbours, not just advertisements in newspapers.

A brochure (Overview of Carrington West Proposal, attached) was available at the last public information sessions held in December 2009 which residents received one days written notice of. Not in the whole of this brochure do Coal & Allied mention this proposal is to mine prime alluvial lands. Yet in the proposed Warkworth Extension brochure available on the same day Coal & Allied go to the extent to state that that proposal is not on cropping land, so much for the open and transparent manner in which Coal & Allied claim to operate.

Apart from the lack of communication with the community we are against the proposal due to but not limited to the following reasons:

1. The negative impact the extra noise, dust and pollution this project will cause to the health, lifestyle and property values of the surrounding communities
2. Real time monitors of PM10 and PM2.5 particles need to be installed across the community before this and other projects go ahead so the community can continually assess the air pollution caused rather than relying on modelling.
3. Dust from mining that contaminates our drinking water
4. Devaluation of our property by continual coal mining proposals and developments by Coal & Allied. Some people don't even consider buying in our area now because of the visual impacts of mining when driving towards here from all directions and / or see the reports on health in the area.
5. Previous dealings with other coal mines have proven that criteria regarding environmental impact and blasting regulations to be met by the mining company are set too low with many escape clauses.

6. On-going project changes that eventuate from these proposals with limited consultation. For example, Coal & Allied have already flagged the possibility of a further extension (refer Coal & Allied HVO CCC April 22 2010 meeting minutes page 4, attached) to mine the alluvial land south of this proposal. This would mean more levee banks, more risk to our water supply and further loss of irreplaceable Hunter River flats. We need to see Coal & Allied's full plan for this area now before informed decisions can be made.
7. Coal & Allied have not included Jerry's Plains on the regional setting map in the Main Report. This omission of Jerry's Plains may be misleading to members of your department and other departments and to the public who don't know how close this proposal is to Jerry's Plains and the negative impact it will have on the township. Coal & Allied have not provided a sufficient social study on the impacts of this proposal. The potential for the loss of houses and families in the area could lead to the loss of children at the Jerry's Plains school and less families supporting the private businesses of the Jerry's Plains area and beyond.

The negative effects this proposal could cause to Jerry's Plains may place it in a similar predicament to that of Camberwell and Warkworth. This would be disastrous and as a past resident of Camberwell we know to well once locals start to leave the ambiance and friendly culture of the community is gone for good.

8. An ongoing monetary trust fund should be set up for the township of Jerry's Plains (separate to section 94 contribution funds) if this proposal is given approval. This would in part provide at least some compensation for the negative impacts this and future proposals will cause to the immediate area.
9. We believe the intersection of Lemington Road and the Golden Hwy should be upgraded before work starts as part of a condition of consent of this proposal should it be approved. This could involve designated turning lanes for traffic turning into Lemington Road from the East or West and running lanes for traffic entering the Golden Hwy from Lemington Road. Not only is this intersection dangerous to the public, but to Coal & Allied's own employees and contractors. We are led to believe it was a consent condition of a previous proposal to upgrade this intersection. Will it take a fatality or serious accident at this intersection for Coal & Allied to do something proactive. Coal & Allied claim to seek feed back from communities to understand potential impacts so they can be avoided or mitigated.
10. The property which receiver 10 represents includes a Homestead. Coal & Allied should be forced to produce a maintenance plan and comply with it to protect the Homestead from neglect and deterioration so as to avoid the Homestead being placed in the same predicament to that of the Wambo Homestead.
11. Coal & Allied don't provide adequate details on the construction of the proposed bentonite wall in the EA. Details such as the depth, construction methods and permeability of the proposed wall are not provided. We ask, is the existing bentonite wall doing all it is claimed to be doing as there is some anecdotal evidence showing that excess water is leaking into mine voids –

maybe this water is coming under the existing bentonite wall reducing the base flow of the Hunter River.

12. The impact the existing Coal & Allied levees combined with the proposed levee system on private properties upstream of Coal & Allied's operations. Coal & Allied should remove any levees in place before any new levees are approved to reduce the risk of damage to private properties in the event of a flood. Some effects could be flood water and debris over more crops and pastures, fences being knocked over, water through houses, hay and machinery sheds and water through electrical boards at pump sites. Small rises in floodwater due to Coal & Allied's levee systems could make huge differences to costs involved in clean up and repair. Coal & Allied should be forced to compensate land owners for the effect they will cause on private assets and crops in the event of a flood.
13. This proposal goes against a 2005 draft document by a government agency (DNR) that no mining would again be on alluvial lands besides schedule three streams. Further to this there would be a 150m buffer from the edge of the alluvial land to the edge of mining. This document is what the community has based their opinion on and were of the understanding that the practice of mining alluvial lands was never to happen again.
14. The Hunter River Flats proposed to be mined will never be replaced. Some of the soil may be put back to grow crops and pasture but not to the same soil structure as pre mining. Coal & Allied don't guarantee that the agricultural suitability will be as good as pre mining after rehabilitation work has taken place, refer Executive Summary Soils and Land Classes volume 1 5.3.

Coal & Allied claim that their experience at rehabilitating this type of land has been successful. Coal & Allied don't state the amount of fertiliser and water used to grow successful crops nor the time a Lucerne crop lasts. Coal & Allied's comparisons are based on short term timeframes – only the first 2-3 years post mining. Until the river flats referred to by Coal & Allied as being successfully rehabilitated are able to have the natural occurrence of floodwater over them they cannot claim this land to be fully rehabilitated. The effects of this natural occurrence of flooding to the rehabilitated landform is not known. This rehabilitated alluvial land needs to be assessed for many years before more alluvial lands are mined. Unmined alluvial lands don't deteriorate.

15. The risks associated with this proposal to the Hunter River are concern enough to stop this proposal. An ever increasing population rely on this precious water supply. Farmers, vigneron and other businesses rely heavily on this very important commodity. There must be a moratorium on the mining of all agricultural lands, especially alluvial lands with underground water connectivity with creeks and rivers. Huge changes to surface water run off patterns and underground water connectivity with the Hunter River are real cause for concern.

16. Allowing mining of such highly productive Hunter River flats is far from sustainable and could set a very dangerous precedent. With a lot of this type of land owned by mining companies one would expect an influx of proposals to do similar. Post mining the Hunter Valley would no longer be able to support sustainable high quality intensive agriculture for which it is known and has supported many communities for generations -- A BIG RISK TO TAKE.

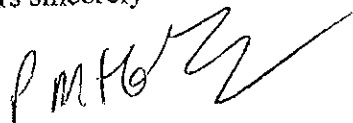
To us there are far too many risks associated with this proposal for it to ever progress.
THE HUNTER RIVER IS THE LIFE OF ALL COMMUNITIES ALONG IT.

PLEASE DON'T ALLOW COAL & ALLIED TO JEOPARDISE THE FUTURE OF
THE HUNTER RIVER AND THE HUNTER VALLEY

Coal & Allied produce statements which can be misleading to the general public and even to those who have an interest in their projects. The EA contains many flaws, too numerous to start mentioning. With this in mind we ask the Department of Planning and other agencies to make themselves available at a meeting in Jerry's Plains to discuss all these issues with concerned residents before a decision on the project is made. Viewing the area in person instead of on paper may better guide the decision makers.

Should changes to the EA be required by the Department of Planning and other agencies, we request Coal & Allied's replies to the changes be placed on public display and a public submission period re-opened.

Yours sincerely



Philip and Casey Holz
131 Long Point Road
Long Point NSW 2330

This brochure was available to the public in DEC 09.
It had a map of the area in question on the back.



**COAL
&
ALLIED**

Managed by Rio Tinto Coal Australia

OVERVIEW OF CARRINGTON WEST PROPOSAL

Coal & Allied is committed to two-way communication with the communities surrounding our operations. We aim to provide information about our activities in a timely, clear, open and transparent manner, as well as seek feedback from communities to understand potential impacts so they can be avoided or mitigated.

In September 2009 we advised we were looking at options for a possible extension of mining to the Carrington West Pit at Hunter Valley Operations, north of the Hunter River. The proposal is to mine an additional 142 hectares of Coal & Allied land, which is predominantly cleared of native vegetation. By extending open cut mining in the Carrington West pit to the south-west, it could achieve up to five years of additional mining of approximately 17mt of in-situ coal. This would provide employment security, continued local and regional economic benefits and result in significant government royalties.

Coal & Allied is continuing to explore this opportunity. The extension of mining at the Carrington West pit requires a modification of the existing development consent under Section 75W of the *Environmental Planning and Assessment Act 1979*. The modification process requires the preparation of an Environmental Assessment to be submitted to the Department of Planning. As part of early considerations, Coal & Allied is undertaking a range of studies which to date, have identified no significant impacts in relation to non-Indigenous heritage; visual amenity; traffic and transport; infrastructure; rehabilitation; and socio-economics.

The proposal would require the relocation further south of an approved groundwater barrier wall prior to mining within the extension area. The barrier is part of our groundwater management plan to manage potential impacts to the local groundwater system near our mining operations. Hunter Valley Operations has built approved groundwater barriers in the past and will use this experience in the construction of future barrier walls. These walls work by separating

freshwater in the Hunter River from saline water in areas disturbed by mining. A short term levee is also being considered to protect the mine workings in the proposed extension area from flood waters from the Hunter Valley. Hydrological assessments are being undertaken to determine the location, extent and height of the levee.

In addition, detailed assessments are being undertaken on soils and land capability, noise and dust assessments, cultural heritage and ecology. Coal & Allied is committed to making a positive contribution to the management and preservation of biodiversity and cultural heritage where it operates. Coal & Allied has successfully rehabilitated land that has formerly been mined. Coal & Allied is committed to working with local communities to mitigate potential impacts on neighbouring landholders.

i We welcome any feedback or questions regarding our activities at Carrington West Pit. Further information regarding the project application is available on Coal & Allied's website (<http://www.coalandallied.com.au>) under > What we do > Our projects or,

phone use the freecall 1800 727 745 Community Information Line,

map or visit our shopfronts in Singleton at 127 John Street or in Muswellbrook at 19 Bridge Street.



Minutes pending acceptance as true and correct at next CCC meeting

9. HVO Approvals Update – Mark Nolan

Presentation made by Mark Nolan to the CCC members providing an update on HVO Approvals (a copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes).

Phil raised a concern with regards to the Mount Thorley / Warkworth (MTW) blasting times. People coming from Broke/Bulga would get held up at Putty Rd without Wallaby Scrub Road, as there would be no detour option.

Paul Nichols asked where Abbey Green North (MTW) was? Mark advised Abbey Green North is in the MTW mining lease and shown on plan included in the information packs.

Mark gave an update on the Carrington West Wing submission and the process that the submission will go through. Mark advised that HVO have submitted an application form only at this stage, and that the wrong form was submitted and the correct form will be submitted shortly. DoP will give the Director General's requirements for the Environmental Assessment and HVO hope to submit the Environmental Assessment (EA) on 31 May 2010. Paul Nichols asked if a flood study is part of the assessment. Mark advised it would be.

Mark asked the committee if HVO should flag any potential extra exploration areas in the Carrington EA. Paul Nichols and Sarah advised that it should be included in the submission. Phil asked at what rate Carrington extension would be mined. Mark advised that the mining duration is approximately 6 years. Phil stated that HVO should not go near the area as it is River Flats. Charlie stressed that installation of a levee bank would effect the residents of Jerry's Plains.

Mark discussed the land classification in regards to the Carrington West Wing area. Mark advised that it is classified as Class II according to the approved classification system. Paul Nichols disagreed with the assessment, stating it is Class I and very productive land and believes that the whole river flats along the Hunter River is Class I land. Paul Nichols believes the worth of that land is far above Class II land. Mark advised that classification is based on an assessment by an independent soil consultant. Neville asked if another independent person could assess the soil classification of the area. Mark advised that discussions are pre-emptive until release of the assessment. Graham discussed that it is a standard part of the EA process that soil assessment will be reviewed independently. Graham advised that the best way is to use the process and challenge the assessment through the EA process. Neville discussed that the definitions in the classification guidelines are the issue. Charlie agreed with Paul's assessment and advised that the river flats contain the best soil in Australia. Sarah asked that if it was Class I could the mine go ahead. Mark advised that it could (NSW government makes a merit based assessment).

Phil asked about the picture showing spoil dumps and challenged whether it was Class III. Mark advised it was classified as Class III by the recent assessment. Paul Nichols asked if HVO can get away from trees and native woodland in lieu of agricultural land, which is the current land use. Mark discussed this is a dilemma where the Government and green groups want native veg and the community want grazing land. Sue asked how the assessment measures what the community wants. Mark advised that it considers the wider community rather than just the Singleton community comments. Mark discussed the general requirements from the Government are to put back more native vegetation than what has been removed. Paul Nichols stated that land before it is mined is viable agricultural land and should be put back that way for the sustainability of the agricultural industry after mining is completed. Neville suggested putting in the EA that current vegetation layout should be maintained. Phil stated that the river flat land will not be improved by mining and should be left alone and other areas should be targeted. Sue advised that these concerns should be noted in the EA submissions.

Paul Nichols asked how deep it is to coal in the Carrington West Wing area. Matthew responded approx 20 m. Paul Nichols asked if the full depth of soil above the coal would be put back after mining. Mark responded that it would not and that the information would be available in the EA. Phil asked what would happen to the topsoil. Mark advised it would be stockpiled and reused on the site for rehabilitation. Charlie discussed that Lucerne needs deep soil to grow and not just the top soil profile. Paul Nichols agreed with this. Sue discussed that generally the committee are concerned about mining the alluvial's, depth of soil returned and re-vegetation plans.

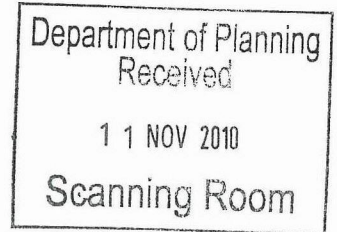
5th November 2010



To Department of Planning

DA 450-10-2003 Mod3

Hunter Valley Operations North Carrington West wing extension.



We totally against any company or government to consider the destruction of our aquifers and destroy agricultural land beyond state of no return.

Australia being one of the driest continents we should be securing all water for food production and ensure sustainability and responsibility to the community and future generation to have resource which is permanent.

Coal being a non-renewable and the extraction of this mineral causes significant damage to our environment, health and sustainability for further development. The corporations are responsible to the community to ensure they provide permanent sustainable resource for future generations, actions of interfering with water and agriculture, heritage and health should be considered before making an application. When perusing this application they have only considered themselves on a profit and government on short term royalty's gain, not to ensure future generations of their rights to employment or access to water and other industries and population centres right to clean permanent resource.

This land and water is too important and we require a whole new approach in protection and sustainability for future generations, with increase in population and limited productive land/water resource we cannot be complacent.

Regards

Steve Clef

65761033,

6 Dawson St

Camdenell

2330

Naomi Nelson - MINING

From: "Bettina Damme" <bettinadamme@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 10:05 AM
Subject: MINING

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

I would like to express my objection to Rio Tinto wanting to mine within 200 m of the Hunter River in order to extract coal.

Too much damage has already been done to the environment. This has to STOP NOW!

B Damme
47 Bourneville Road
RATHMINES NSW 2283

Naomi Nelson - Buffer zone mining

From: "Doug Blackwell" <doubla@aussiebroadband.com.au>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 11:20 AM
Subject: Buffer zone mining

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

Sir,

It has come to my attention that Rio Tinto has applied to extend it's HV Operations North-Carrington West Wing Extension on to The Hunter River river flats within 200m of the River. To my understanding this is in contravention of the draft management arrangements for stream and aquifer systems under the Coal Mining Developments 2005 legislation. This provision was put in place, rightly I believe, for the long-term protection of the alluvial aquifers which are a fundamental part of a healthy and agriculturally productive river system.

I believe that a healthy river system and it's adjoining productive river flats are worth far more to society in the long run than the short-term profits derived from mining a few tonnes of coal from this important zone. Should this application be approved I believe it will set a precedent not only for the Hunter River but all other river systems in the state.

I object to this proposal and trust that good sense will prevail and the application will not be approved.

Yours,

Douglas Blackwell.

Naomi Nelson - DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3-OBJECTION

From: "cate green" <rockhopping@bigpond.com>
To: <plan_comment@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 4/11/2010 11:13 AM
Subject: DA 450-10-2003 MOD 3-OBJECTION

RECEIVED

4 NOV 2010

Rio Tinto Management and all concerned,

I am writing re; DA 450-10-2003 MOD3-HV operations North-Carrington West Wing Extension

This proposal poses numerous major concerns which threaten the already endangered river systems in the Hunter Valley. I object as it is my understanding that by mining so close to the river the plan-

- *contravenes the 2005 Draft Coal mining Management document stating the allowance for 150m buffer to alluvial aquifers

- *This proposed mining would cause irreparable damage to the alluvial aquifer and interrupt natural base flows from the river system

- *If implemented this proposal would cause cumulative loss of precious Class 1 and 2 agricultural land in the Hunter Valley

- *What's left of the healthy River System is paramount-we must save our waterways-if the proposal goes ahead even more alluvium will be under threat as mining companies will see this action as a precedent for further mining.

In this day and age, surely it is time for Mining Company Employees to consider the consequences of their decisions. If we want to save the planet, every action now needs to be a positive one. THINK, DON'T MINE IN SUCH ECOLOGICALLY SENSITIVE AND IMPORTANT AREAS!!

Cate Green
90 BOURKE Street
MAITLAND 2320



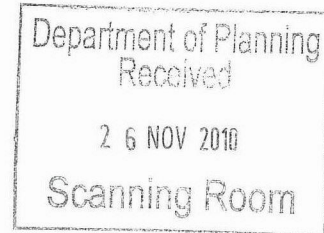
PCU017131

Rosedale

PO Box 14
Singleton 2330
Ph/Fax: (02) 6576 1957

23 November 2010

The Director
Major Project Assessments
NSW Planning
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2000



Dear Sir

RE: CARRINGTON WEST DA 450-10-2003

The following is my submission of objections:-

It is absolutely vital that our rich food growing alluviums and our precious water are left intact for future generations.

Mining is finite, agriculture can go on forever. Australia's future is in agriculture.

The Water Management Act – Section 5, sets out a list of principles:-

- Total compliance with the Act
- Water Quality
- Water Sharing Plan
- Ensuring efficiency
- No aquifer interference. Activities must avoid or minimise land degradation, this includes:-
 1. Soil erosion;
 2. Compaction;
 3. Geomorphic instability;
 4. Contamination and acidity;
 5. Water bogging;
 6. Decline of native vegetation;
 7. Land must be rehabilitated!!!; and
 8. The carrying out of impacts must be avoided or minimised.

No mining in the Hunter Valley "so far" has had minimal impact. Impacts on water, surface and aquifers has been MAXIMUM eg:-

- Bowman's Creek
- Bayswater Creek
- Wambo Creek
- Elli Creek

All were used for irrigation. Now are either contaminated or have disappeared. There are already unexplained water losses from the Hunter River. Until it can be determined that these losses are not caused by mining there needs to be an embargo on all mining that will interfere with the Hunter River and its tributaries.

Seepages into pits are occurring constantly. This obviously is water that would otherwise flow into the River.

The Hunter Valley contains complex and unpredictable geological features, with numerous fault lines. These must affect hydraulic conductivity in so far unknown ways.

Assumptions made by "so-called experts", who come from other States predict too great a margin of error. This project must take into account the principles of ecologically sustainable development.

The economic costs of mining impacts have not been adequately considered. Mining is for a short-term economic gain, but long term impacts can be there and infinitum creating a legacy for future generations. If this development is granted consent an ecological disaster will be created.

Everyone down stream stands to be affected by altered or contaminated flows and if/when a large flood occurs, prior to or after completion of rehabilitation, the soils would wash into the river and deposit more silt into the river bed.

Our water and alluviums must remain intact as nature has devised. Man has raped enough of the rich Hunter Valley. Have we not learned this by now!!!

To my knowledge the only areas that have been mined successfully by "scraping the top soils back" are:-

- Weipa;
- The bauxite in Cape York; and
- Mineral Sands in Western Australia.

Why have these areas been successful? The base rock stratas have not been blasted to create huge pits, which are then filled with the created rock rubble which remains unconsolidated mine spoil.

The resulting area continually subsides especially after rain or irrigation resulting in an uneven surface that cannot be farmed.

This has occurred at Coal & Allied's previous attempt on the alluviums at their Hunter Valley No. 1 Mine. The resulting land eventually could not be farmed due to constant subsidence, which altered after each rain event or irrigation. Machinery could not work the country and now remains grazing use only.

The firms that prepare the environmental assessments always play down the "proposed" effects. The continuing effects of mining can be seen all over the Muswellbrook and Singleton Shires.

Assessment of Impact on Mine Site Water Management

Releases – Since the Hunter Salinity Trading Scheme commenced the controlled leases have reduced the salinity but the water from broken aquifers is still finding its way into streams and allowing contaminated water into the river system.

"Pit Inundation is expected to slightly increase!!! How is this decision arrived at when no hydrological study has been conducted on the whole valley not just the lease area as is seen now?

- Where do the aquifers rise?
- Where are they in a 50 kilometre radius of the lease area
- What quantity of water is contained in these aquifers?
- What amount of water is being conveyed to the River?

Impact on Flooding

- 2 year plan!
- 5 year plan!
- 100 year plan!

These are based yet again on supposition. Floods are totally unpredictable. Hunter River floods have been very fast flowing and destructible.

Levies

Earth that has been removed and built into a levee is not stable in heavy rain or a flood. The Hunter River is shallow now compared to 100 years ago. This is due to silt deposits from flooding. The risk of this occurring must not be allowed. The effects downstream could be disastrous.

Soil & Land Resource Management

4.1 Topsoil Stripping and Handling

All alluvial soils stripped must be placed back on to the flats not on "re-shaped overburden"!!!

The alluviums must not be moved!

All rehabilitation sites in the Hunter are a disaster the "Soil" placed on the top has leached away leaving grass and trees struggling to survive in rock rubble and inert materials.

This proposal could affect all water users downstream.

This entire area is flood prone. During the 1955 flood local landowners from the area reported the height of the flood water would have exceeded the 25 m proposed by the mine. The 130 ha to be mined by this proposal was once highly productive dairy farming enterprises.

The potential impact on the Hunter River from this proposal is enormous. The recent P.A.C. decision on the BHP Billiton proposal south of Sydney should be the decision here namely, "Society would be better off if the coal remained in the ground".

Yours faithfully



WENDY G BOWMAN