

Anita Karso

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Name of Application: McPhillamys Gold Mine Project

Application number SSD-9905

I Object to the above proposal.

I object for a number of reasons and can't decide what is my main reason as there are so many impacts to so many people it is hard to determine the greatest effect.

This mine will affect resident's mental health, physical health, health of animals, water supply, property's vista's, property's values, property's lifestyle, some property's income, some property's standard of living as well as change of how we will have to live in our homes (mainly indoors), environmental impact on water ways and general country side, wildlife, just too many things to name. All of these are just short term immediate effects if mine is approved, no long term affects or damages are a certainty and difficult to know how they will affect the residents.

I reside on Walkom Road and will have a direct visual impact by mine so my lovely rural view will be now spoilt. I am directly across from where the large wall will be built. This is going to create a large amount of dust and noise. As well as the visual impact all of that dust will travel across onto my property. Kings Plains is an extremely windy place, currently with the drought there is more dust everywhere and with rain to fill tanks to try and keep the grass alive to reduce this we are reliant on bore water. Regis are currently monitoring numerous bores around Kings Plains as they are going to be putting their own bores across the road on their site. In other mining communities once mines have arrived residents have lost their water table making their bores non productive.

Regis are letting us know if are water is lost they will supply water. Nothing has been received in writing in relation to this from Regis so it is a bit uncertainty hanging over our heads.

We are currently in a severe drought, where will they find this water for our community. Due to the fact they require so much water for their production they are going to be bringing in contaminated water from Lithgow. We live in such a beautiful area with so many farmers why would we wanting to bring in such a product. When they process the gold more chemicals come in contact with this water, more contaminates. This water will soak into the earth and then the dust be blown onto our properties. Regis are happy to put monitoring on our gutters, why should we be subjected to having such dangerous dust come onto our properties in the first place. This dust just doesn't go into our water, it will get on our skin, clothes, crops all over our day to day life. I am no doctor but I don't want to be flooded by toxic dust when I live in a beautiful rural area away from city pollution.

What happens to birdlife and all wildlife if they drink this water and worse still if their dam or holding areas break and leak into our river streams. How could such a thing be repaired and the effect it would cause downstream to farmers and general land owners and the environment and native animals.

A lot of residents are reliant on their income from animals being in a clean environment and access to clean water and bore water for irrigation etc. We have a local bee keeper what will happen to their bees and business when such a large amount of land where the bees go will be destroyed and they drink contaminated water. We have a beautiful nursery that is reliant on water, BnB's in the area need to keep their grounds and gardens watered.

Just talk of the mine is putting stress on myself and other residents with the uncertainty of the mine going ahead and Regis not committing to anything until they have approval. There is talk of double glazing, air conditioners as it will be so loud and dusty when mine is getting built. There is no talk of compensation for having to be indoors as it will be so noisy and dusty. This mine is just so close to residents we shouldn't have to alter how we live for a giant company. If it is to disrupt us so much it shouldn't be approved so close to residents or Regis must buy out the effected properties not just purchase properties where it suits them to mine. Some of us on Walkom Road have consideration from Regis but three properties don't. All three have the same disruptions, one property is very close to the entrance so will be effected more by the vehicles going in and out. Regis have purchased some of us trees so far to try and minimise visual impact but this is an expense to have to water when you are reliant on pumping bore water to water. Our finances are so small compared to such a large company.

Kings Plains has a real community feel about it and everyone looks after each other. Our new large neighbour has only it's and it's share holders interests at heart. Already it has unsettled our community with some neighbours judging others if they have meetings with Regis and this is making a bad situation worse. Our property's values are affected one property can't sell as no one wants to live so close to a mine. BnB's will be effected as people want be able to have a nice peaceful sleep with 24/7 operation across the road. This could impact all of us greatly especially as some people are looking at retiring in the near future to downsize, they will be financially effected.

My property has a heritage listed building on it and there are a few other heritage buildings on the road, we have such strict guidelines about fencing, colours etc. My neighbours even had to plant a row of trees to block any new build and they are residential and yet a massive eyesore can come in and change the landscape around heritage buildings. I am uncertain of how the old bricks will withstand blasting and all the changes of the earth as they dig so far down and the water table will be effected. There will be additional movement on an already fragile building I am trying to restore to last a few more hundred years.

As well as early settler heritage in Kings Plains there has been Aboriginal artefacts found on the mine site and there are caves with evidence of Aboriginal life this will also be destroyed.

I can't see how the negatives of this mine out way the positives especially when the majority will only go to shareholders and not all are even Australian so profits will go offshore. I don't want my life and my country dream to be sacrificed at the cost of a large gold mine and I don't think my neighbours or community should also suffer and be affected. The number of jobs that will be created doesn't out way the cost to residents. Some local businesses are worried they will lose their workforce as the mine pays large wages so they will be disadvantaged, This mine will not operate long enough to make a great financial impact to Blayney and the surrounding area.

I strongly object to this mine being approved, thanking you for taking the time to read my thoughts and accepting my objection.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anita Karso', with a stylized, cursive script.

Anita Karso