

Phil Jones - HVO South - Modification 4 - Administrative Omissions and Clarification

From: "Judith Leslie" <jabulga@bigpond.com>
To: <Phil.Jones@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 9/10/2012 4:39 PM
Subject: HVO South - Modification 4 - Administrative Omissions and Clarification

Dear Mr Jones,

I live in the Hunter Valley, 7 km from the Mount Thorley Warkworth Coal and Allied open cut mining operation.

With regard to HVO South - Modification 4 - Administrative Omissions and Clarification I wish to make a submission against this modification

1. It seems that in the rush to push this through, the spelling was not checked
 "Administrative" should be Administrative.
2. The proposed offsetting of offsets is flawed and contrary to the principles of offsetting as set out in the DECCW principles :

DECCW Principle 3: Offsets must never reward ongoing poor performance.

Offset schemes should not encourage landholders to deliberately degrade or mismanage

offset areas in order to increase the value from the offset.

Digging coal out of environmentally sensitive areas is deliberate degradation

DECCW Principle 8: Offsets should be agreed prior to the impact occurring.

The mining has started already

DECCW Principle 11: Offsets must be located appropriately.

Wherever possible, offsets should be located in areas that have the same or similar ecological characteristics as the area affected by the development.

DSEWPac Equivalent (Principle 6): Environmental offsets should be located within the same general area as the development activity.

The Goulburn River is NOT in the Hunter Valley

DECCW Principle 13: Offsets and their actions must be enforceable through development consent conditions, licence conditions, conservation agreements or a contract.

Offsets must be audited to ensure that the actions have been carried out, and monitored

to determine that the actions are leading to positive biodiversity outcomes.

DSEWPac Equivalent (Principle 8): Environmental offsets should be enforceable, monitored and audited.

Clearly no-one has been policing this.

From where I sit, none of these principles have been adhered to, and to call it an Administrative Omission would be laughable if it did not appear so sinister.

As a Hunter Valley resident surrounded by coal mines and threatened by coal mine expansion, I am very concerned about these "Administrative Omissions" and other deliberate deceptions by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, that seem hell bent on approving as much coal mining as possible and the citizens can go to hell.

We pay your wages; you and your colleagues should be working for us, not the coal mines.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan M Leslie', with a small dot at the end.

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