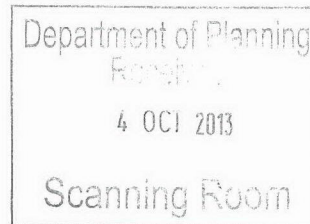


Submission to Oppose the Continuation of Bengalla Mine



PCU048476

Director Mining and Industry Projects
Development Assessment Systems and Approvals
Department of Planning and Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001



Jonathan, Elisabeth and William Moore
"Gilgai" 1140 Wybong Rd
Muswellbrook 2333
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3rd October 2013

Our property "Gilgai" is located approximately 11km west of Muswellbrook on the Wybong Road. It is a second-generation sheep and cattle grazing property of 627ha. There are two residences on the property ID 168 (our home) and ID 169.

Improvements to the property started in the late 40's and have continued ever since. Extensive soil works through the Soil Conservation Service and now Catchment Management Authority. Pasture trials and pasture improvement with district Agronomists. Property planning and extensive fencing to improve management and to attempt to demonstrate successful sustainable agriculture.

Since the late 70's we have understood that there were considerable coal reserves in our area. Open cut coal mining would become part of our landscape. We also understand the importance of coal mining not only for Muswellbrook but also for NSW and Australia.

We are aware of the impacts of open cut coal mining and have been living with these impacts for many years.

We strongly oppose the Continuation of Bengalla Mine. This development will see mining continue westward, closer to our home and property for a further 21 years.

Continuation of Bengalla Mine EIS September 13 clearly indicates that we shall be affected. Levels of noise and dust will be above relevant acquisition criteria. Noise, greater than 5 Decibels above the intrusive criteria, shall be experienced from year one of the project. Dust, above the cumulative annual average PM_{10} criteria ($30\mu g/m^3$) from year eight of the project.

What Bengalla does not adequately address are the direct impacts from Blasting (including chemical smell and orange plume).

We have concerns already with respect to the impacts of vibrations on our house as a direct result from Blasting. We do not feel confident with the way Bengalla already deals with our complaints of chemical smells from Blasting. These are real health issues.

There are numerous open cut coal mines in our area and with the Continuation of Bengalla Mine the impacts indicate that it will be impossible for us to stay at "Gilgai". It has never been our intention to move. Our future is now very uncertain.

We strongly oppose the Continuation of Bengalla Mine.

Jonathan B. Moore
E M Moore.
W Moore

3rd October 2013

Jonathan, Elisabeth and William Moore.