

Ian & Robyn Moore,
"Strathmore,"
Apple Tree Flat,
Jerry's Plains. NSW. 2330.
9th March, 2017.

Department of Planning

GPO 39,

Sydney.NSW.2001.

Re:- HVO South Modification 5

We are writing as concerned landowners and residents from the Jerry's Plains area to voice our objection to HVO South Modification 5 Project.

We are farmers and residents of Jerry's Plains, not anti-coal mining activists. We believe this country needs mining, however it should not be allowed to destroy and impact on high quality agricultural land, Rural Villages and our most precious resource of all, our water, without water this country will be doomed.

The visual impact, noise and dust that we already experience now is unbelievable. And now they want to increase the height of the overburden so we get more dust, noise and more rocky moonscape mountains to look at.

Where is the topsoil going to come from for rehabilitation – we all know the majority of the topsoil has already ended up on the bottom of the overburden piles.

With an increase in extraction rates, and a final void of 523 ha there will be adverse impacts on groundwater, the discharge into the Hunter River System will cause more pollution for the already struggling River System. The cumulative impacts are too great.

We believe that the future of the historic village of Jerry's Plains and surrounding agricultural area must be protected from the pollutions of dust and noise that will be greatly increased by this modification. We have sat back and listened to all mining companies telling us that they are doing things better, better for the environment, less noise, less dust, less pollution of our river systems and underground aquifers. WHY is it that the dust, the noise, and everything that is adversely affected by mining is getting a whole lot worse and not better? It is impossible to control the dust and air pollution, owing to the grand scale of mining and the massive amount of disturbance to the area in the Hunter Valley.

The Hunter Valley is one of the finest agricultural valleys in Australia

The mines destroy the land forever.

We keep hearing the same old story we must protect the miners jobs. We never hear about the jobs that have been lost in the area to mining. This area was a rural farming community where there was many, many families living and surviving quite well on the land and employing other families. Just in Muswellbrook and Singleton alone there were six agriculture businesses selling Tractors, now these two towns have none.

The combined impact on the Hunter River and the aquifers are at risk, our water is so precious it must be preserved for our future generations, along with our very fertile land.

We respectfully ask that you register our objection to this proposal and seriously consider our objections when assessing the appropriateness of this HVO South Modification 5.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Moore.

Robyn Moore.