

12/10/2017

Mrs Carolyn McNally
Secretary
Department of Planning and Environment
320 Pitt Street
Sydney NSW 2000

I am writing in regards to the proposed change to the Maules Creek coal mine project application, in particular the removal of a section of Condition 12A Schedule 3. That is:

“ ensure that all equipment and noise control measures deliver sound power levels that are equal to or better than the sound power levels identified in the EA, and the correspond to best practice or the application of the best available technology economically achievable”

I find this proposal extremely concerning for the affected residents in and around the Maules creek area, especially as pointed out by Namoi Water's submission, the repeated exceedances already occurring. The mine is currently progressing towards residents, therefore a move to where Whitehaven is effectively self regulating seems, with its poor history, foolhardy and in my opinion would border on neglect on behalf of the state government if it was approved.

The worry for myself lies in the proximity of my own property to Whitehaven's Vickery project and in particular the Blue Vale pit extension. I have already experienced Whitehaven's behaviour towards its neighbours. The proposed Blue Vale Pit is a kilometre closer to my family home, yet in discussions with Whitehaven the noise modelling contours of affected residents will not change from the original EIS. The proposed changes at Maules only adds to the feeling that Whitehaven will do whatever it wants in total disregard to the surrounding neighbours and their wellbeing.

I am happy to be contacted on this matter at any time

Yours sincerely
Grant McIlveen