

John E Lonergan  
"Riverview"  
KAYUGA NSW 2333

17 March 2021

Planning and Assessment  
Department of Planning, Industry and Environment  
Locked Bag 5022  
Parramatta NSW 2124

Attention: Lauren Evans

**RE: Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project – DA92/97**  
**– ADVERSE IMPACTS of EXISTING AND PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT – Property ID 156a**

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in relation to the Mount Pleasant Optimisation Project. I declare I have made no reportable political donations in the past two years.

I am not officially objecting or supporting the application. This letter is to outline the current and expected adverse impacts the mine will continue to have (or increase in severity) if the optimisation project is approved. I live at my home in Kayuga since 1976.

I would like to acknowledge Sandy Lettice from MACH Energy from Mount Pleasant Operations. He has been keeping me up-to-date with the proposed expansion and the proposed increased adverse impacts on my property.

I understand the MACH Energy joint venture optimisation includes but not limited to:

- Increasing the mine life from 2026 to 2048 – an extension of 22 years
- Mining method may change to a dragline after 2026
- Increasing ROM from 10.5 Mtpa to 21 Mtpa – doubling annual coal production
- Increasing waste replacements approximately 340 metres to above 360m (not defined how high they are going)
- Operational workforce increasing from approximately 330 people to over 600 people on average with a peak of 830 people.

I am writing this letter to express my concerns about the adverse impacts the project will continue to have on myself and indirectly my family for an additional 22 years beyond the existing impacts which were to cease in 2026.

## 1. Noise

With the assistance of my daughter who has experience in this area, I have reviewed certain aspects of the Environmental Impact Statement including Appendix A – Noise and Blasting Assessment. The following is noted:

- (i) No background unattended or attended background noise monitoring was undertaken in Kayuga village.
- (ii) L15 was considered representative of our area. As specified in Table C-2 the Unattended Noise Monitoring results – 2018 survey for L15 as
  - a. Day – 25 dBA (RBL)
  - b. Evening – 28 dBA (RBL)
  - c. Night Time – 22 dBA (RBL)
- (iii) Table C-3 specified the Attended Noise Measurement Results - 2018 Survey. Results for L15 locations was
  - a.  $L_{A90, 15min}$  – 16 October – 8.20am – 24 – background noise levels dominated by nearby fauna
  - b.  $L_{A90, 15min}$  – 31 October – 4.52pm – 31 – background noise levels dominated by nearby fauna
- (iv) The noise criteria used to determine the noise impacts were
  - a. Day – 40  $L_{Aeq, 15min}$
  - b. Evening – 35  $L_{Aeq, 15min}$
  - c. Night – 35  $L_{Aeq, 15min}$

These are not even the “Typical existing background noise levels” as outlined in Table 2.3 of the Noise Policy for Industry (2017), which specified 40 dBA, 35 dBA and 30 dBA respectively.

We believe this criterion is not appropriate for my property. Section 2.3 of the Noise Policy for Industry (2017) outlines the intrusiveness noise level is determined as

$$L_{Aeq, 15min} = \text{rating background noise level} + 5 \text{ dB}$$

Therefore, the Noise Criterion for my property should be:

Day: 30 dBA  
Evening: 33 dBA  
Night: 27 dBA

The following table summarises the ACTUAL predicted noise levels compared to the EIS predicted levels.

Aspect	Operational Noise					
Period	Day (EIS Noise Criteria)	Day (RBL +5 dBA)	Evening (EIS Noise Criteria)	Evening (RBL +5 dBA)	Night (EIS Noise criteria)	Night (RBL +5 dBA)
EIS Noise Criteria (dBA)	40 L <sub>Aeq</sub> 15min		35 L <sub>Aeq</sub> 15min		35 L <sub>Aeq</sub> 15min	
RBL+5 dBA		30 dBA		33 dBA		27 dBA
2026	37	37	25	25	37	37
2028	42	42	39	39	47	47
2031	40	40	38	38	47	47
2034	41	41	41	41	46	46
2041	37	37	36	36	46	46
2044	32	32	32	32	42	42
2047	35	35	44	44	40	40
Compliance with predicated criteria	Up to 2 dBA exceedance	Up to 12 dBA exceedance	Up to 6 dBA exceedance	Up to 11 dBA exceedance	Up to 12 dBA exceedance	Up to 20 dBA exceedance
Summary of impact	NEGLIGIBLE	SIGNIFICANT	SIGNIFICANT	SIGNIFICANT	SIGNIFICANT	SIGNIFICANT

The noise impact at my property is significant for day, evening and night periods, with up to a 20 dBA increase at night.

I therefore request that MACHEnergy upgrade of all windows and doors on all facades in my house with 10.5mm VLAM hush laminated glass for all windows and sliding doors and solid core doors for the front door. I would also require air conditioning for the entire house to allow the windows and doors to remain close to provide the best acoustic performance and therefore reducing noise within the house.

## 2. Air Quality - Dust

I have reviewed some parts of the Air Quality Impact assessment, it is over 500 pages in length. Due to the technical nature of the report (without any professional advice at my cost), along with the size and length, I have relied on the information contained in the Landowner Briefing document provided by MACHEnergy.

It states that "An exceedance of the relevant air quality criteria is predicted at your residence (Table 3) and you will be afforded acquisition upon request rights for potential air quality impacts under VLAMP (Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy - For State Significant Mining, Petroleum and Extractive Industry Developments)."

My main concern relates to the PM<sub>10</sub> and PM<sub>2.5</sub> as the health impacts are becoming increasingly known. I own a property with my children at 1510 Wyong Road and frequently (at least 4 days per week) drive out to our property to manage the farm. On many occasions the dust levels along Wyong Road are so visible and impedes visibility on the road. I am concerned that the dust mitigation measures are either not being implemented on site or are inadequate and therefore the predicted dust levels not what is expected.

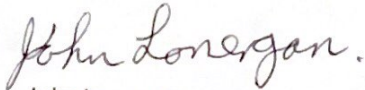
### **3. Visual Impacts**

I am also concerned that the visual impacts from the project being granted an extension for an additional 22 years. As the mine moves north towards Kayuga the visual impacts will continue to increase. I find the visual impacts along Wyong and Kayuga Roads, as well as in town (wine estate) an eye sore, mines this close to town are disappointing as the rural farming land has been replaced by large waste areas which overtime are to be rehabilitated.

### **4. Voluntary Land Acquisition**

If I choose to enter voluntary acquisition, I request that this encompasses all properties that I am full or partial owner of.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John Lonergan." The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

John Lonergan