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Department of Planning, Industry and Environment,
GPO Box39,
Sydney, NSW, 2001

Attention: Director - Coal and Quarry Assessments



Dendrobium Mine: Plan for the Future - Coal for Steelmaking Project (SSD-8194)

I, James Neil Scott Chalmers hereby declare my support for the proposed Dendrobium Mine extensions to Areas 5 & 6 to provide Coal for Steelmaking.

The Reasons for my support include:

Socio-Economic Benefits

1. The project would provide continued employment and support to the greater Wollongong community, without the risk of unemployment of the existing workforce within a few years (by 2024).
2. Continued mining would sustain the employment of South 32/Illawarra Coal Dendrobium's workforce, besides creating a further 100 jobs for the life of the Project and an additional 200 jobs in construction.
3. The Project will generate around \$714 million in royalties, taxes and rates, contributing to local and state infrastructure and services.
4. The Project will result in a total net benefit to the NSW economy of over \$2.8 billion (real, undiscounted terms), including over \$1.1 billion (real, undiscounted terms) to the Greater Wollongong Region.
5. The Project would allow South32 to continue to support local suppliers and contractors, providing additional security and longevity of employment in the region.

Environmental Measures and Outcomes

1. South 32/Illawarra Coal has already demonstrated responsibility and adherence to best environmental practices, and thus merits support for the extension to Areas 5 and 6 allowing continuation of mining activities beyond 2024.
2. The Project commits to not longwall mine under water supply reservoirs including dams, or under named watercourses and key stream features.
3. The Project commits to a minimum of one-kilometre setbacks from the Avon and Cordeaux dam walls.
4. The Project commits to pursue opportunities for industrial users to reuse any excess mine water.
5. South32 supports biodiversity research in the water catchment, including swamps and endangered species such as the Giant Dragonfly and the Littlejohn's Tree Frog.

Steelmaking in the Illawarra

1. The Project would provide an ongoing and essential local supply of metallurgical coal to BlueScope Steelworks. South32 currently supplies around 60% of BlueScope Steelworks' metallurgical coal requirements.
2. Bluescope Steel is a major employer in the Wollongong/Illawarra area, and if it suffered a loss of access to quality metallurgical coal, (in my opinion) could well decide to shut-down steelmaking facilities, with a major loss of jobs and employment in the area. This would leave Australia without a local supplier of flat-products steel.

Other reasons:

I believe that keeping Steelmaking in Australia is a national necessity both for security of supply and to avoid dependence on imported steel materials both for quality and pricing control with competition.

- I have not made a reportable political donation in the previous two years

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Chalmers', written in a cursive style.

James Neil Scott Chalmers