

Facsimile to: Mining & Industry Projects  
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Re: Submission to Major Projects & Planning  
Expansion of the Moolarben Coal Mine,  
Stage 2, Mudgee

No. of Pages: 3 including cover sheet

Thank you.

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Submission to Major Projects & Planning, NSW re expansion of the Moolarben Coal Mine,  
Mudgee.

We wish to make known our objection to any further expansion of coal mining in our residential area of Cooks Gap.

The frenetic spread of mining interests in our residential district has reduced our quality of life by impinging on our residents and offering to buy properties so that affected residents sell out and move. Other residents have receptors attached to their properties which acknowledge the potential for these properties to be affected by noise or whatever. Neighbours opposite these properties appear to be ignored for any potential effects with a spokesperson for the mine stating "have to draw the line somewhere". On occasions, we hear the noise of heavy vehicular traffic along the Ulan Road and blasting at mines some 10-12kms from our home. What can we expect in the future?

No consideration is given to the pollution caused and the fall out on the roofs at homes where in the past water has been able to be collected into tanks in more or less the same purity with which it fell.

Now the coal dust that settles on the roofs of houses goes into our tanks -- witness the fall-out on our un-garaged cars. Filters on pumps have to be changed more often incurring extra costs.

The Ulan Road is nowhere good enough to carry the extra traffic which in recent times has been unleashed. Some parts of this road have been widened, but drive it at certain times of the day and you will realise the inadequacies of the road not to mention avoiding the re-occurring pot holes. This is particularly dangerous when driving into the headlights of on-coming traffic, being mainly mine workers at shift changeovers during early hours of the morning and night. It is evident from print and electronic media that neither our local council, the mining industry or the State Government can come to any agreement with respect to the ongoing maintenance/repairs of this roadway.

We noticed the draft LEP and proposed changes to the land zoning in the Cooks Gap area from Rural Residential to Large Lot Residential, some 35kms from the Mudgee township and 20kms from the small rural town of Gulgong. This was never explained to us; and questions arise as to whether this was to accommodate the mining interest rather than the rate paying residents who in good faith purchased their small 10 hectare properties for quality of life and could this have another financial impost with rate increases notwithstanding the changes that could arise in the area as a result of the proposed land rezoning.

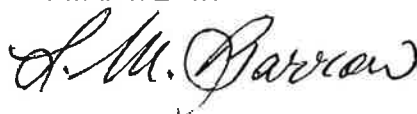
My daughter, Helen owns the property that adjoins our home where she works and trains sheep dogs. Dogs particularly have exceptional hearing and it is said they can hear four times the distance that a human can! In fact, research shows that a dog's range of hearing is approximately 40 Hz to 60,000 Hz. While mine blasting at the moment is some 10-12kms from our home, we can hear it on occasions and it is clearly evident that some of the dogs are acutely aware and sensitive to this noise. What can we, and the residents in the district expect in the future for ourselves and for our animal friends?

We are absolutely sick of the rape and pillage of Australia by mostly foreign interests and the willingness of the various Governments who have probably never stepped outside the hallowed halls of concrete jungles but have been busy selling our country out- destroying our agricultural lands with the frenzy to take our wealth out of our country- the 30 pieces of silver so to speak.

There is no one to whom the ordinary thinking Australian can protest because most of the past Government participants of both persuasions are now lobbyists for mining interests to the incumbent Government both Federal and State.

Judas the betrayer was a gentleman compared to these people. At least Judas went out and hung himself.

L.M. & G.R. Barrow  
1 March 2012



H.V Johns  
1 March 2012

