

Date 17/4/2014

Name Melissa Bayer

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I am writing in relation to Modification 4 – Invincible Mine Extension (07_0127 MOD 4); and Modification 2 – Cullen Valley Mine Extension (DA 200-5-2003 MOD 2).

I strongly object to both modifications for the following reasons.

The residents of Cullen Bullen enjoy a peaceful lifestyle surrounded by clean air, water and a beautiful environment. If these applications are approved it will create noise and dust pollution for the town and surrounding areas. It will also take away valuable land that can be used by residents for recreational activities.

The dust created in the past when Cullen Valley Mine was in operation, meant that residents of Cullen Bullen had to constantly clean their homes and cars to keep them dust free. That created more work and added to the cost of living for all residents. I don't want that to happen again.

There are many examples of damage to homes believed to be caused by the operations of the mine. Many residents with damage to their homes have not been satisfied by the findings of the assessors and are out of pocket for repairs they have had to make themselves.

I have health issues which seem to be linked to the operations of the mine. I also know of many other residents who have itchy skin or breathing difficulties which they believe are linked to the operations of the mine. I don't want to expose myself or my family to the dust particles produced by the operation of the mine and put our health at risk. I also don't understand why this anecdotal evidence is not valued.

Many residents are tired of having to "keep an eye" on Coalpac Ptd Ltd (Administrators Appointed). Why do residents have to interrupt their daily activities to report possible dust and noise concerns? This creates stress that we just don't need or want.

The extension to Invincible Colliery will be visible for the Castlereagh Hwy. There are many tourists who travel through our area on their way to Capertee Valley and Mudgee. This is not the gateway we want to present to them.

As seen by the number of submission to the Coalpac Consolidation Project, this area has special importance to many different groups and is a unique area in terms of its landscapes and biodiversity. The Department of Planning said that it was worthy of protection. I would like to see that the land around Cullen Bullen be able to be used by all of these different groups and not just one mining company.

Cullen Bullen had only 2 or 3 people employed at Invincible and Cullen Valley. The argument that these projects are good for the local economy and will create more local jobs is misleading from our experience.

For these reasons I would like to see the Department of Planning reject the 2 applications.

I declare that I have not made any reportable political donations in the past 2 years.

Yours faithfully

