

Director, Mining and Industry Projects,
Major Projects Assessment,
Department of Planning and Infrastructure,
GPO Box 39,
Sydney NSW 2001

Dr Peter Turner
9 The Ridge
Helensburgh
NSW, 2508
peter.turner.home@gmail.com

3 September, 2012

Re: Project Application MP 10_0046 Modification 1

NOTE: This cover letter is not for public exhibition

Dear David,

Please find attached an initial submission to object to the Gujarat NRE project application MP 10_0046 Modification 1. Repeated requests for an extension to the unreasonably short three week public exhibition and submission period for this proposal were refused by the Department of Planning and Infrastructure, with advice that an initial submission made by the deadline of 5pm Monday September 3 could be followed by a revised submission.


In requesting an extension I pointed out the large amount of material associated with this proposal and that some of it was missing. The missing material became available on the Department's Web site on Wednesday August 29. A corrected section of the proponents Environmental Assessment was provided to one person late in the afternoon of Friday August 31; this revision does not appear to have been made available on the Department's Web site. This proposal was clearly not ready for public exhibition.

In requesting an extension I pointed out that working members of the public with family and other personal commitments have very limited time in which to read and respond to project proposals. In my case I have had to take some annual leave in order to prepare a submission; the Gujarat proposal has more than 900 pages associated with it. The submission deadline overlaps with the submission period for the planning reform Green Paper. A proposal from Apex Energy to further their coal seam gas aspirations in the Special Areas has just been placed on exhibition, with the same closing date as that for the planning reform Green Paper.

It seems that while the Department will clearly do all it can to accommodate and facilitate the interests of the proponent, including exhibiting deficient and misleading documentation, it shows little or no consideration for the concerns and requests of the public.

I note that my requests for an extension were supported by the Member for Heathcote Lee Evans and the Member for Keira Ryan Park, who made representations to the Minister for Planning.

Yours sincerely,



I have made no political donations.