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To Whom It May Concern

RE: Mount Thorley Warkworth Extension

My husband and I were both residents of Bulga for 10 years and are employees of Rio Tinto. In our years with Rio Tinto we have worked at Mount Thorley Warkworth Open Cut Mine.

Due to the downturn in the coal industry and the uncertainty of the longevity of MTW we have since moved to Western Australia. We have though, kept our acreage/residence in Inlet Rd on the hope of returning. This would only be possible if the Extension was granted which would ensure we have jobs to return to.

The biggest environmental concern that might be an issue would be the noise. Up until moving some 12 months ago the noise levels had increased considerably. The monitors might not have reflected this, as our house sits at the tree line and at the base of a large mountain ridge. The noise just bounces off the mountain and there is no buffer between the noise at the mine and our house when they are mining. It would have been nice for some of these people to come and live in the village for an extended period of time to see how it affects different residents/properties depending on the topography that surrounds the properties and where the residents are placed within their boundaries

In Appendix F of the EIS Statement, it shows the predicted effect noise will have on all our premises over the life of the extension. There are residents on the same scale as us on the opposite side of the mine, Long Point/Gouldsville who have already been acquired by Rio Tinto. The mine is moving away from them and getting closer to us. Where is the equality in this?

We have no objection to the extension going ahead, as this will provide sustainable employment for the region and it will allow us to return to place that we built, but there needs to be some form of monetary compensation, especially for those who are not given the choice of being acquired but will be affected by the extension.

At the other end of the scale, allow the residents of Bulga to choose whether they be acquired by Rio Tinto. It should not be left up to some computer model and government bodies that decides who does and doesn't get acquired.

Thank you for your time

Ian and Karen Jones