



Name - Carolyn Hedge

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Name of application: Mc Phillamys Gold Mine Project

Application number SSD - 9505



PCU078487

I OBJECT to the proposal

REASONS FOR OBJECTION:

* CAROLYN HEDGES' FARM *

EFFECT ON (DIRECTLY OPPOSITE TO THE MINE) NEIGHBOURS

- I live 600 metres from the mine pit. On the southern side of the valley at Kings Plains. Here the open cut pit will be excavated and a large waste rock disposal area including a high embankment will be constructed over a period of years. There will be continuous noise, dust, and at night, light pollution during the life of the mine. I have five show horses who live in the paddocks and stables directly opposite the proposed mine ~~site~~ site. I spend 3-4 hours per day training and caring for them. My concerns for them are for their safety; with horses flight response to noise and vibration and my self regarding safety when handling them in those situations. Each night I check on them at 9:30pm in a quiet, DARK and peaceful setting. I look at the stars in the milky way and embrace the tranquility. These things will be taken away when the mining site preparation begins!

My life will be severely disrupted when the blasting occurs ^{daily} as I will have to safety yard the horses, to prevent them going through fences and damaging themselves.

Also I will need to curtail my training activities daily to fit in with blasting as the noise, vibration and dust will upset them.

- As well as the effect on the animals my daily activities in the garden and paddocks will be unpleasant with the increased dust, noise and unclean air.

At present I overlook a pristine hill and trees - this will cease to exist.

NATIVE FLORA and FAUNA

- Development of the mine site will lead to the destruction of 44ha of critically endangered Blackleys Red Gum - White Box - Yellow Box grassy woodland and the habitat of a least two colonies of squirrel gliders, and a least one koala colony. Both animals are listed as vulnerable. Threatened bird species include the Regent honey eater.

My garden and paddocks ~~have~~ give shelter and homes to 30 species of native and commoner birds which will be unpleasantly frightened away by the mining.

We have echidnas, wallabies, kangaroos and reptiles with which we are delighted to co-exist. All such fauna will be to a degree displaced by destruction of habitat and the effects of noise, dust, night light and the destruction of potable water sources.

These all pose a risk to local biodiversity and form an argument for mine rejection.

EFFECTS ON WATER RESOURCES/ CATCHMENT

- We are not on town water, therefore rely on the water we catch from rooves of the house and sheds.

continued.

- * Dust and fumes from machinery and blasting will pollute the air and may damage our water. This is also a concern for our stock water troughs from which the horses drink.
- * We rely heavily on a bore to supply water and are concerned that this may be badly effected by a changing water table resulted from the mine excavation.

HEALTH and WELLBEING OF ANIMALS

- Respiratory : Horses and dogs are sensitive to the
+ Hydration dust and fumes that will come from work on the mine. Their water sources will have dust and ~~impure~~ pollutant contaminating them. Gases produced by blasting can persist in the atmosphere and affect both animals and residents downwind of the blast site. High levels of NO₂ can cause irritation to the eyes, nose and throat, headaches and breathing.
- Food sources : Horses graze 14 - 17 hours daily.
(grazing) Dust and toxins coating the grass ingested by the horses will be a concern.

- Safety : Horses are a flight animal and
fear / flight response respond immediately and often dangerously to sudden noise, vibration and flashes of light. These are all likely to occur daily during all

HEALTH and WELL BEING:

- uncertainty for the future has caused me severe stress.
- I had planned to develop a coaching business with children and horses but cannot pursue this as I cannot obtain insurance due to my proximity to the mine with its blastings and noise.
- We have ceased to rebuild and refurbish fences, sheds and garden areas due to uncertainty of what is ahead.
- My anxiety and stress has impacted on my sleep, which used to be consistent and excellent. Also I have developed an irritable skin condition and have felt unwell.

Mentally I am experiencing lack of confidence, difficulties in decision making and an all over malaise.

- Conflict and tension in my interpersonal relationships are a concern - trying to make sense of the road ahead has caused angst.
- The Kings Plains community has been cohesive and supportive - taking care of one another in good and bad times. They have embraced our family and become very important to us. I fear that with the development of the mine people will move; some already have and the community, as we know it will cease to exist.

Signed: *Concyn. E. Hooley*

Date 17th October 2019