

Louise Baker
2439 Mitchell Highway
VITTORIA NSW 2799

Name of application:

McPhillamys Gold Mine Project
Application number SSD – 9505

I OBJECT to the proposal.

REASONS FOR OBJECTION:

I am writing to you to confirm our **objection** to the proposed Gold Mine Development.

The development has a significant unreasonable impact on the health and welfare of my family. It has significant impacts on the natural water catchment area and also has a material effect on the amenity.

This development will cause contaminates which will pollute the environment resulting in both personal and environmental harm. This development is within close proximity to my mother's home.

The objection is based on the grounds as indicated;

- Dust
- Water
- Noise
- Property Value
- Impact on the amenity
- Public interest

Dust:

Dust created by explosive activity, trucks and machinery operation will settle on the roof and end up in our drinking water. Any dust will impact on Asthma and dust product from the operation will impact this further.

The impact of the dust on our health with contaminants identified in research such as Asbestos. The current road development on Mitchell Highway identified asbestos when they were working on the road, and the need to have this identified and managed creates a risk to the neighbouring properties.

There is a further concern of the drift of dust to agriculture production. This is prime agricultural land that is being lost to mining development.

Dust may contain chemicals that pose a risk to human health and the environment. The dust will blow directly towards our property.

Currently with the seasonally dry conditions dust will be created by heavy vehicle traffic that flows past the residence.

Water:

Overflow, run off and waste water from the operation will eventually end up in the local rural/town water supply through this water zone. It is unreasonable to think that sludge and seepage from contaminated waste will not leech into the ground water and the underlying water table.

The run off from the roof water - dust on our roof - will end up in our tank. This will impact our drinking water, our cooking water, washing and cleaning water.

Sediment and seepage of contaminated waste that is transferred from other sites will have a significant impact on the environment.

This development will have a significant impact on our bore water supply and with already limited availability to ground water will also restrict the natural run off of water to our dams for stock water.

Contamination, and even the possibility that contamination could happen, is defined as pollution. If ground water becomes polluted it can be very difficult to clean up. The development must not allow any material, including hazardous substances or other chemicals, which may pollute soil or waters to soak into the ground within your premises, or in any other area. The water from Lithgow will already be contaminated when it is brought here for use.

There has already been a mine development at Browns Creek – within this local area that has failed and caused major disruption to the local water supply and environment. This was not managed at the time and has caused a major impact to the water supply and environment both up and down stream. This resulted in the loss of the natural flow of water up stream of the facility.

The Federal Government has just put forward billions of dollars to develop and upgrade to the Wyangla Dam as the initiative for water security and drought protection for Australian communities. This development is directly in line with water flowing to that natural catchment area and will impact on the full run off and contradicts this other development plan.

This water flow (tailings dam) starts at the mouth of the Belubula river and this flows all the way through to this major water source.

Noise:

As a near neighbour there will be significant impact from the noise. The area will be constantly impacted by heavy machinery movements at all hours. How will noise and vibration be avoided or minimised.

There will be the requirement to reduce or cease noise that could be found offensive. 'Offensive noise' means that by reason of its level, nature, character, quality or the time at which it is made, or any other circumstance, the noise is harmful or interferes unreasonably with comfort. How will the explosive activity be controlled for neighbouring lands.

Heavy traffic movements will be experienced at all hours of the day and night. Heavy Vehicles create noise and dust.

Property Value:

The visual of the development, heavy machinery, noise, dust severely diminishes the value of our property. The development so close to our home including industrial heavy earthmoving equipment and trucks does not maintain the rural function and primary production values of the area.

Public interest

The development is dismissive of potential hazards or risks. This demonstrates a lack of responsibility towards legislative requirements and controls. This development does not aim to protect, manage and restore areas with special ecological, scientific, cultural or aesthetic values. This development has a significant adverse impact of those values.

The development will impact on surrounding prime agriculture areas and is a risk to water supply. The need to control the development for biosecurity, the need to maintain water safety and the impact on the local area.

The development is not in line with the values of the area. Its contribution to the local economy would be limited given the extensive trucking of products to and from other locations. It does not complement surrounding land use of rural production which are typical rural industries.

Conclusion

We object to the development on the basis of the impact on the environment and the need to develop something within such a densely populated area that can cause significant impact to those around it.

Louise Baker