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24 October 2019

Name of application:

McPhillamys Gold Mine Project Application number SSD – 9505

I OBJECT to the proposal.

## **REASONS FOR OBJECTION:**

I am a mother a grandmother and a great grandmother and for the sake of my family and future generations I strongly object to the project.

I purchased this property as a family property back from the development corporation. This property belonged to my father and has been in the family for 60 years, bar the short time that the development corporation held it.

Since my purchase I have been approached about an airport, an army base and other developments put forward by the Government. Now we have to deal with a gold mine of which I **strongly object**.

I object to the following;

Dust Noise Water Supply Impact of the development on property value Impact on the environment Disruption to my lifestyle and livelihood.

We have been to meetings and open days and questions that we had been asking for 12 months have not been answered until just recently. In 2013 we were visited by the gold mine to do core samples of our property (Chris Roach) and we were advised at that time that there was nothing to be worried about and we would not be affected by anything that comes to the area.

The effects that it will have on me and my family are outstanding and we don't seem to receive any correspondence from the project managers to give us any feeling that this is not a dangerous situation to be in. As a neighbour to the development, my closest boundary is under 1 kilometre to the tailings dam. This will create dust and noise and will be an ongoing problem.

At one meeting we received confirmation that the wind would come from the South West and we are directly in line with the North East. I feel that the dust that will be created from the development – with the wind coming from that direction – it is going to be a constant problem.

In the construction of the tailings dam I feel that we will be subjected to a large amount of dust and noise being in close proximity to the house will have a heavy impact on my health and lifestyle. I have spent years maintaining and developing the property which will be impacted substantially given the development.

I have recently lost my husband to Asbestos related lung cancer and the development of the mine on an area that could have Asbestos dust causes me a great amount of anxiety. The development itself causes me high levels of stress and concern given the negative impact on all that I have worked to create.

This includes my drinking water, surface water, underground bore water all being at risk of contamination from the development. The bore water is essential for the property in domestic house water and livestock water.

Transporting contaminated water from Lithgow will be in close proximity to where I live and the water supply that I use. This is a high risk of contamination to my property. The tailings dam will have chemicals used to treat the product. This tailings dam will have an impact on the bird live and change the natural ecosystem of wildlife in the area.

The dam will be there forever and if there is any damage caused. It is too late to fix the problem once the damage has been done.

We were advised in the early stages that the mine would not be testing for underground water. In the last open day we asked had they put any bores down and we were shown a lot of blue squares on a map that they had already progressed with water bore testing to test the water supply.

We are situated 1,000 meters above sea level, the development is much lower than what we are. They are denying that it will interrupt our water supply, but common sense tells you that water at a lower level will be taken by the mine and draw from the water at a higher level.

There will be a continual noise disruption impact on my household. I was advised that the mine would send someone to sit with me while they would be blasting. Does this mean that someone will come and sit with me every day and every night?

There will be increased heavy vehicle traffic on an already heavy road. This creates a further risk for me when I travel to town to do my shopping. Will there be consideration for any noise buffers through the development.

I did have an alternate route to get to Blayney in case of a road closure (Guyong Vittoria road) with the closing of the Dungeon Road I will no longer have this road to access if required in an emergency.

In all this time I have never had anyone from Regis come and see me to ask me what my concerns might be. Two women went around the area, but did not call in to see me in relation to how this would affect me.

This is prime agricultural land and I am strongly objecting to the development not only for me, but also for the sake of my children, grandchildren, great grandchildren and many generations to come as the impact of the whole development including the tailings dam will be there forever.

Noelene Burke