



ABN 54 160 243 032  
2319 Mitchell Highway, Vittoria NSW 2799  
Telephone: 02 6368 7160 Fax: 02 6368 7164  
Email: admin@goldfieldshoney.com Web: www.goldfieldshoney.com

Regis Resources – The McPhillamy Project and the effects on my family's businesses.

On site businesses operated from 2319 Mitchell Hwy VITTORIA NSW 2799

Goldfield Honey Aust Pty Ltd Directors – Vicki Lockwood and Jonathon Lockwood

Goldfields Honey, Bee and Pollination Services Pty Ltd – Managing Director - Vicki Lockwood

The Beekeepers in – Partners Vicki Lockwood and Claire Bennett,

Lockwood Beekeeping Supplies – Sam Lockwood

Central Ranges Brewing Company – Mark Lockwood

SLB Lawn and Garden Service – Scott Bennett

These businesses are operated by Managing Director Vicki Lockwood and her children Jonathon and Sarah Lockwood, Mark Lockwood, Claire and Scott Bennett and Samuel Lockwood. The founder Grant Lockwood passed away in June 2017.

Location – 2319 Mitchell Highway, VITTORIA NSW 2799 midway between Orange and Bathurst and approx. 2000 metres from the proposed McPhillamys Gold Mine.

This proposal has and is causing my family mental health issues, anxiety, personal stress and business stress on all the businesses, hence, the writing of this document. The time already consumed, and the time taken to write this would have been of far more benefit to my businesses or my family which include 5 grandchildren. This is a family run business established in 1982 and through expansion we now are finally located at our current location since 2003.

Together with my late husband Grant a lifetime has been spent building these businesses. We have also passed on our skills and knowledge to our four children who all have a major role in our diversity.

I am not at all experienced with the procedures of mining and find this whole process of what to do very daunting. I have been visited by various people from different sectors involved in impact studies, mining project managers ect. I am very confused, but I do know that no one is prepared to guarantee no effects on my business and my family.

## **Goldfields Honey, Bee & Pollination Services Pty Ltd (GH)**

GH is writing in objection to the proposed Regis McPhillamy Mine project.

This company is the original and parent company of the Goldfields Empire. GH is a SQF certified Honey packing facility. SQF is a global accredited food certification (see attached). Located at Vittoria just 2.5km from the mine site. GH employs 10 full time staff members. GH packs honey for major supermarkets which gets dispatched all throughout Australia. GH processes between 20,000 to 30,000 units of honey per week.

The problems associated with the proposed mine site if constructed are as follows.

### **Dust / Water**

GH has stringent testing protocols. Water testing is just one of the tests we have to get analysed as we use the water in our packing facility (cleaning). GH uses tank water that is caught from our factory's roof. We are concerned that the contaminated dust from the proposed mine will settle on our roof and contaminate the rainwater. If the water were to be contaminated from the dust this could lead onto our honey being contaminated also leading to national food recalls.

In times of drought when there is little rainwater GH has a very efficient bore which we use to run our factory. We are concerned that if the mine were to go ahead and the open pit were to be dug whether it would drain our bore. If so would the mine guarantee a constant supply of potable water.

GH takes pride in being ecofriendly with the use of solar panels. We are concerned that the excess dust the mine will produce will affect the efficiency of our solar panels. Hence creating a cost of more regular cleaning.

As the group of GH companies have staff and visitors' cars on site at all times we are concerned that the contaminated dust will settle on the cars and be taken home to their families.

### **Communication**

GH is concerned that the mine will affect our communication. The constant blasting and vibration from the proposed mine site could interrupt and communication signals as there are towers located in the neighboring forest.

### **Food Safety.**

GH currently packs 20,000 – 30,000 units of honey for major supermarkets, bulk distributors and our tourist shop The Beekeepers Inn. Other stringent testing GH undertakes as apart of there SQF and HACCAP accreditation is Honey. We test for adulterated honey, micro testing, residue testing and heavy metals just to name a few. GH has a sister company Goldfields Honey Australia (GHA). GHA is our largest supplier of honey. GHA uses the Vittoria State Forest neighboring the proposed mine site. Some of the apiaries are located under a kilometer from the proposed mine site and tailings dam. GHA produces excessive amounts of Yellow box, Blakley's red gum, Sydney peppermint and stringy bark honey from these apiaries. Hundreds of acres of these trees are set to be cleared to make way for the mine. Some trees as old as 200 years old. GH is concerned about potential food contamination from the honey produced adjacent to the mine site. There are a couple of different scenarios GH is worried about.

1 Dust from the proposed mine settling on the remaining trees. The contaminated dust will settle in the flower cup. When the bee is to forage and collect the nectar it will return it to the hive with potential heavy metal and or chemical residue contamination.



ABN 54 160 243 032  
2319 Mitchell Highway, Vittoria NSW 2799  
Telephone: 02 6368 7160 Fax: 02 6368 7164  
Email: admin@goldfieldshoney.com Web: www.goldfieldshoney.com

2 Tailings dam. A beehive needs a lot of water for the hive to function properly and to regulate the temperature of the hive. GH is concerned the bees will forage for water on the contaminated tailings dam water and return it to the hive contaminating the bees and the honey. If the mine were to be approved we suggest that the tailings dam be covered to a size that a bee cannot fit through to drink the water.

The treat of this contamination to a food product being distributed all throughout Australia could lead to a nationwide food recall. There could be up to 150,000 units on the shelf at any given time and a lot more units in households across Australia. If this were to happen because of contamination from the proposed mine GH is expecting the mine to compensate any cost associated with the recall.

### **Expansion**

GH is wanting to expand its business in the coming the years without a guaranteed clean honey source supplied by GHA this is currently on hold due to the proposed mine. Goldfields Honey has been working in the industry for 45 years and wants to grow into the future for a lot more generations to come. It is very unfair that a proposed mine with a life span of only 10 years can come in a put not just our business but many other businesses, families and communities lives on hold.

Vicki Lockwood

Managing Director.

**Please note one in every three mouthfuls of food every person eats is because of aa bee**