

**Bulga Optimisation Project Modification 3 and Bulga Underground Modification 7
(SSD 4960 MOD 3 and DA 376-8-2003 MOD 7)**

Judith Leslie 339 The Inlet Road Bulga 2330

I OBJECT to this proposal.

- I have made NO reportable political donations in the past two years.

REASONS for OBJECTION.

- In a time of rapidly accelerating climate change another 63 million tonnes of coal will have significant impact on global emissions.
- The disturbance of 20.2 ha land including 19.2ha of native vegetation amounts to further environmental vandalism at a time when Australia is leading the world in environmental destruction and loss of native species (flora and fauna) and habitat. That the destruction of this land is to be “offset” by other Glencore-owned land close to Broke is an obscenity, such “offset” does nothing to compensate for the loss of biodiversity.
- Re-disturbing 200 ha of previously rehabilitated land is particularly hazardous in an area (Singleton Shire) where particle emissions are increasing at a rapid rate. Dust alarms are increasing in frequency and in levels. This dust pollution leads to many adverse health impacts on those who are forced to breathe it. Wind cannot be used to “excuse” such impacts, the cumulative effects of so much land disturbed for open-cut mining ensures that this land WILL, inevitably increase dust emissions. Watering haul roads or ceasing mining in certain areas in windy conditions cannot mitigate the cumulative impact of so much disturbed land associated with the steady expansion of open-cut mining in the Singleton Shire.
- It is unreasonable for the residents of this area be forced to live with such impacts that significantly affect health adversely. These residents see no corresponding positive impacts from this activity.
- It is well-overdue for the adverse impacts of such projects be accounted for when assessing so-called “economic benefits” to the community and beyond. Glencore is notorious for tax-avoiding by profit shifting. The royalties from ALL mining account for less than 2% of annual State revenue. The costs of adverse health impacts are met by the same State revenue. Profits go to overseas entities not to the people forced to live with the adverse impacts.
- **FINALLY**; it is time for Australia to act responsibly to minimise global climate change. Mining is becoming increasingly automated thus jobs and taxes cannot be relied upon. Jobs become meaningless when climate change destroys a liveable planet.

For all the above reasons I strongly object to this project.

J Leslie

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