

Director Resource Assessments,
Planning & Environment,
GPO Box 39
Sydney, NSW 2001



Dear Sir,
Re; Proposed Bylong Coal Project.

Following on from 14th Oct. meeting at Bylong Community Centre, I would like to take the opportunity to provide a submission in relation to the impact that the proposed mine will have on my property.

I purchased the property in 2007 after an exhaustive search for a small productive holding with a reliable irrigation water supply close to a rural village. Tinka Tong more than met my requirements and I considered myself most fortunate to move into the Bylong Valley. My property has 2 dwellings on 2 titles, infrastructure for horses and cattle and most importantly a 104 meg aquifer Water Access license. The Bylong River runs the full length of the property. Since purchasing the property I have undertaken considerable improvements including establishment of an irrigation system with a diesel pump and underground main lines. I have 3 equipped wells that supply water to both dwellings, 16 stock troughs and the horse and cattle yards.

If it is approved the Kepco mine site will be about 1 kilometre upstream from my boundary. The mine proposal includes 15 bore holes. I understand that the impacts on the groundwater will be substantial with a water level decline of or greater than 2 metres for a substantial period. There will also be long term changes in water quality in alluvium and in surface water. This will reduce and possibly destroy agricultural productivity on my property. The acquisition by Kepco of horse breeding properties in the immediate vicinity has already severely impacted my horse breeding enterprise by removing support services. The widening of Upper Bylong Road which runs adjacent to my property will increase noise and dust to an unacceptable level, severely impacting both horse and cattle breeding. I am directly downstream of sediment dams with a potential to be impacted by overflow.

Kepco management has recognized that it will be impossible for me to live on my property once mining commences due to the impact of noise and dust. As a consequence I understand that my property is noted as an impacted holding subject to acquisition upon request. In addition to the recognised impacts I hold grave concerns that mining activity will disrupt or destroy the aquifer that feeds my irrigation system and the wells providing stock and domestic water.

Mine is but one of the properties that stands to be severely impacted by mining and whilst I understand the wider benefits to be gained from mining I believe that the concerns of the affected farming and village community should be considered by the Department in the approval process.

Consequently should the Department see fit to approve the project, I trust that my property and those of all other affected landowners will be granted acquisition upon request to at least allow us the opportunity to obtain a fair price unaffected by mining, together with compensation for costs and the disturbance caused by the acquisition process.

Yours faithfully,

Robin Wright

"Tinka Tong"

2/11/2015

