

Sophie Butcher - Fwd: Objection to the Stratford Mine Expansion Project

From: Paul Freeman
To: Sophie Butcher
Date: 1/25/2013 9:27 AM
Subject: Fwd: Objection to the Stratford Mine Expansion Project

>>> Marion Rounsley <marionrounsley@hotmail.com> 25/01/2013 9:01 am >>>

Marion Rounsley
497 Glen Rd, Craven 2422
marionrounsley@hotmail.com
Phone: 0265588260
25th January 2013

Re: Project Application No: SSD - 4966

Dear Mr Freeman,

I would like to register my strong objection to the expansion of the Stratford Coal mine.

I was a resident of the Stratford village with my three school aged children for 10 years. That was before the mine started until after it was in full swing. Stratford residents rely entirely on tank water, which is obviously polluted with coal dust being so close to the mine.

Stratford Primary school is also incredibly close to the mine and those children both at school and at home are reliant on tank water.

They also are breathing coal dust laden air.

Yet, mine workers have clean water trucked in, not just for drinking, but also for showering. They have the dust levels of their air conditioned vehicles constantly monitored and they have regular health checks to watch for possible ailments caused by mine pollution and noise.

Obviously Stratford residents and their children, do not matter to the mine! Now, with the expansion project imminent, health affects for Stratford residents and surrounds, will be multiplied.

In 2004, I moved to an 85 acre property to the south east of the Stratford mine site, which I had purchased in 1996 (my solicitor at the time did checks to see if there would be any mining impacting on this property and there appeared to be none).

Now, with the proposed expansion to Stratford mine and with further open cut sites proposed along Glen Road Craven, where my property is situated, my property is obviously affected.

In recent weeks, I have found out from the grape vine, NOT from Yancoal, that the mine purchased the property adjoining mine to the east. This has a huge impact on the value of my property.

My property values for the last two valuer generals assessments have gone down by \$10,000 each time. With the expansion, no doubt, it will be even further impacted. It is obvious to all residents around here, that even if we wanted to sell our properties, firstly, they would be at a severely reduced price and secondly, no one would buy them because

they are too close to mining activity.

Here also, we have only tank water; water from house and shed rooves that collect both water and coal dust.

Hence, there are health impacts which will be multiplied with an expansion of Stratford mine.

We already have noise pollution from coal trains, vehicle operation at the site and from blasting. If the expansion goes ahead, not only will the mine site be even closer than the 5 kilometres (as the crow flies), that it is at the moment; the noise and dust will be for 24 hours a day! This obviously multiplies health, monetary and psychological impacts on us.

I would be pleased if you could add my letter of objection to the no doubt large pile of other letters objecting to this expansion.

It is blatantly obvious that Yancoal, the owners of Stratford Coal, are interested only in making **more** money from Australian assets and have no consideration for the people who live nearby.

Yours Sincerely,
Marion Rounsley