

Sophie Butcher - Fwd: Objection to Stratford Extension Project.

From: Paul Freeman
To: Sophie Butcher
Date: 1/29/2013 10:58 AM
Subject: Fwd: Objection to Stratford Extension Project.

>>> "Steve Bignell" <smtlbignell@gmail.com> 25/01/2013 4:18 pm >>>

S.M & T.L Bignell

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NSW Department of Planning and Infrastructure
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January 25 2013

SUBMISSION – STRATFORD COAL EXTENSION PROJECT

We wish to object to the planned Stratford Coal Extension Project. We own, operate and reside at “Avon Park” a cattle farm, within 4 km of the existing Stratford coal mine We have three young children and can see the mine from our home and from most view points from our property. We believe that it will affect my family, property and business in the following ways.

- 1) **INCREASED NOISE:** Our property overlooks the planned Avon North Open Cut Pit and Northern Wastes Emplacement. We can already hear mining operations during the day from the existing mine. Avon North Open Pit and the Northern Waste emplacement are closer to our property. This will have a huge impact on increasing noise levels day and night. We work hard as parents of young children and work long days running a business. The Avon North Open Cut pit should not be permitted to operate 24 hours a day.
- 2) **INCREASED DUST:** We already hear mining activity and see dust from mining and blasting operations .An extension of the mines area and hours will increase mining vehicles operating in the Avon North pit and Northern Waste Emplacement creating more dust. With 2 of our 3 children already diagnosed with Asthma, any increase in dust levels will not be acceptable. Asthma has many triggers and dust pollution is one of them.
- 3) **LIGHT POLLUTION:** If the Avon North pit and Northern Waste Emplacement is able to operate 24 hours a day, there will be a need for floodlights for this to occur. This will impact on our lives as it will increase light and noise pollution. Poor sleep conditions and interrupted sleep will decrease physical and mental health.
- 4) **STRESS:** Mining activity surrounding our home will increase stress levels. We have placed a large amount of time and financial investment into our home and business. We feel a lot less settled and constantly worry about our children’s health and wellbeing. This property has been in the family for five generations.
- 5) **DECREASED PROPERTY VALUE:** As the Stratford Coal Mine expands it will increase the visual impact, noise levels, dust and noise pollution. This in turn detracts from the value of the property, as it would to any potential purchaser of the property.

Due to our concerns outlined above we object. Please do not allow the approval of the Stratford Coal Extension or the proposed 24hrs of operation to occur.

Yours Sincerely,

Steven & Tracey Bignell.