



Rivers SOS

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13<sup>th</sup> February 2013

To the Director General & Minister  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
Major Development Assessment  
GPO BOX. 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Dear Sirs/Madams,

**RE: OBJECTION to Stratford Coal Extension Project No SSD-4966**

Rivers SOS is writing to lodge our objection to any form of mining or extractive industries in the Gloucester-Stroud Valley and request the Stratford Coal project is rejected.

The Gloucester-Stroud valley consists of two major catchment areas:- Manning River to Taree and Karuah River to Port Stephens. Rivers SOS is greatly concerned for the creeks that are to be diverted or redirected in the E.I.S. or to be discharged into these gullies or creeks by Stratford Coal. Ultimately this will affect the river systems to Taree and Port Stephens, which is unacceptable.

Rivers SOS has seen from other areas in NSW; the swamps, creeks and rivers impacted by Government approved mining (open cut & long wall mining), including mining discharge affects. We urge the Government to cease adding more mining impacted natural water sources to the list. Therefore the Government must start protecting all natural water sources from any form of mining/extractive industries.

Rivers SOS believes that the entire bushland area should be excised from any further mining areas due to State & Federally listed Endangered, Threatened, Vulnerable Species and be protected for all times, by rejecting the mining wildlife surveys as being flawed. Allowing these protected species to be offset elsewhere is inadequate and unacceptable. The reality of offsetting is the wildlife will be killed.

We look to a positive outcome from the Planning Minister in protecting the Gloucester-Stroud Valley from any further impacts of mining and/or extractive industries.

Yours faithfully

*Amanda Albury*

Amanda Albury  
Rivers SOS President/Secretary  
PH: 4997-5979

Rivers SOS exists for the protection of the integrity of river systems and water sources  
from the impacts of mining and other extractive industries

24<sup>th</sup> January 2013

To the Director General & Minister  
NSW Department of Planning & Infrastructure  
Major Development Assessment  
GPO BOX. 39  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

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Dear Sirs/Madams,

**RE: OBJECTION to STRATFORD COAL Extension Project No SSD-4966**

~~4~~ We *Rivers SOS Inc.*..... hereby OBJECT to the above Stratford Coal extension project and request the Planning Department and Minister for Planning reject this proposal. Stratford and Duralie Coal mines were to close after their '8 year promised Boutique mine'. Stratford Coal has been operating for over 14 years and Duralie Coal over 10 years.

~~4~~ We object to Stratford Coal's proposal to operate a 24 hr mining proposal and request this is rejected on the grounds that people are already being impacted.

~~4~~ We are concerned Stratford Coal mine will be too close to Stratford Township, where some houses will be less than 1000 metres away from the 'new Bowens Road proposal' and open cut coal mine impacts.

As people's homes are already cracking, vibrating and shaking with blasts as well as have dust inside and outside/inside their homes and in their tank water (drinking water), this will only be accelerated the closer the mine moves to Stratford Township. I/We therefore request the Department reject this proposal.

~~4~~ We request Government to protect people affected by mining impacting their tank water. The tanks must be sealed water tanks and water required by the householder for the life of people living in these houses is therefore paid by the Stratford Coal mine.

~~4~~ We agree that should towns go onto mains water due to their tank water being contaminated by Stratford Coal mine, that the cost is covered completely by Stratford Coal mine.

- All homes in mining impacted areas MUST be fitted with Water diverters on tanks once again at mining expense.
- All people seeking assistance to purify their air in their home must be provided with this equipment free to each household affected, full costs incurred by the mine.

The Health of people is already being affected from coal dust, being sleep deprived from mining noise, vibrations, and unable to stop low frequency noise affecting people inside their home must be addressed by Government & mining.

**Dust monitors to reflect PM2.5.**

I/We request that health studies via the Government Departments are conducted in an open and transparent way to be fast-tracked into areas already affected by coal mines.

I/We are concerned that any further mining on the people of Craven, Stratford, Wards River, & Gloucester where people are already being impacted will continue to impact people and their animals who have a right to a peaceful existence on their own property.

I/We request that the Government acknowledges that people are having mining move into their area by Government approval. Therefore people must be compensated and have their property purchased if they choose to move away from the mining at the value of land/house before the mine devalued the land value. Prices given to people must be above market value; compensation must be paid to people for having this impacts their life and farming businesses.

I/We do not give our permission for the Government Departments and Ministers to approve Stratford Coal mining proposal, due to the major, significant impacts the mine is already having on environment, people, domestic animals and wildlife and farming businesses. The entire area of bushland 'ear-marked to be open cut' has many threatened species listed, which need the Government Departments to start protecting these areas.

I/We do not give our permission for this mining company to be given approval to continue to dig up, drain divert and impact the many creeks and river systems in the new proposed mining areas of Stratford Coal.

I/We request Government to accept that the cumulative impacts of these mining companies together Yancoal Duralie/Stratford Coal and AGL Gas, Gloucester Resources) must be addressed and stopped.

Individually these mines are impacting huge areas of land that can only be used once for mining and then it's a wasteland for thereafter.

Yet if Land, farming, tourism is managed, the land will always be able to be used and the important tracts of bushland will remain intact, instead of having bushland corridors 'cut off' from other areas for wildlife, causing major problems as their habitat is removed mining being the biggest threat to so many bushland areas.

The Economic value of the Gloucester-Stroud Valley has been devalued by the cumulative affects of mining for the short term gain bringing in small profits to Government, costing the country financially and leaving a legacy of land around NSW and Australia unfit for any use again.

Yours faithfully

(Signature).....A. Albany.....

(Name).....Amanda Albany - president/secretary.  
Rivers SOS Inc.

Address ..P.O. Box 17 clarence town NSW 2324

Date: .....25/1/13.....