

Glendell Continued Operation SSD9349

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Mt Owen Continued Operation Project mod4 SSD5850

Attention: Director Resource Assessments

NSW Department of Planning

I am lodging **an objection** to the Glendell Continuation project and Mt Owen continued operation on these concerns.

I strongly object to the relocation of the Ravensworth Homestead Complex. The buildings and land on which they are located are a very early European history and an important part of the Hunter Valley.

Dr James Bowman was a highly regarded surgeon and pastoralist in the early days of the colony. The historical society in Sydney and Camden consider the Ravensworth Homestead complex was designed by one of Sydney's earliest architects, who designed several of the original buildings in Sydney. If the Homestead was relocated it would lose its heritage value.

To mine under the homestead is definite no, it is well known that land that has been exposed to underground mining eventually settles and the buildings will collapse.

Having travelled overseas, I have seen European and Asian countries values and maintenance of their historical buildings.

Australia may be a very young country, but it is vital that we maintain and value our history for future generations. Far too much of our history has been violated here in the hunter valley, so many of our early buildings have been left to deteriorate or have been bulldozed by coal companies.

Enough is Enough

Every day over the radio and in the papers, coal companies are being phased out worldwide. Banks and big corporations are selling out shares on the stock market. The world at last is waking up to the effects on our planet. This means coal must stay in the ground, where nature intended.

I am one of the mines closest neighbours, I have suffered from the results of poor air quality for years. The coal industry has done so much damage to our land and water. Mining has been allowed to continue expanding whenever they desire in Singleton and Muswellbrook shires which has resulted in loss of valuable grazing land and aquifers. I believe we have lost between half to two-thirds of our valuable underground water due to extraction of coal in the hunter valley, this has been made obvious in drought conditions. Prior to mining Bowmans creek never ran out of water, this is because of the recharge from springs and underground water. Now we are reliant on stored water in dams of Glenbawn and Lake St Clair (Glennie's Creek) in drought conditions.

In January 2020 I was notified that my water allocation would be restricted, which has a flow on effect to my income and my employees.

No Water, No Feed and then No livestock

Then I watch mining companies receive allocation to wash coal. In 2007 I received **ZERO** allocation and had to watch animals suffer.

York's creek must not be diverted, the springs and underground aquifers will remain in the original location which will be destroyed by mining, which means York's creek would only flow in rainfall events. By Diverting York's creek will impact Bowmans creek pools and ecosystems, Bowmans creek has suffered immensely by mining and there must be no more destruction of this creek.

Tank water on my property is severely impacted by mining due to air pollution. The poor air quality contaminants are collected in the gutters of the house and flashed into the water tank by rainfall events. The contaminants impact the water quality in the tank, and this becomes a health issue. There is no responsibility on the industry to clean the tanks and provide clean water.

These mines are leaving the area virtually unrehabilitated to the state of lesser value before mining. Huge mountains of overburden higher than the original landform and the incorporation of toxic final voids will be left behind after mining.

Visitors to the hunter valley cannot believe their eyes as they travel through the valley to see the destruction that is occurring.

Coal mining must gradually cease for the sake of the people living here, for future generations and for the health of the planet. These companies have made billions of dollars at our expense, they should be held accountable to retrain their workforce into other businesses and to ensure the transitions is made smoothly.