

22 May 2015

To Whom It May Concern,

I write this letter to express my upmost support for the Drayton South Coal Project and share my opinion as a member of the local community.

Having extensively read both the EIS & the PAC's recommendation for approval of the Drayton South Coal Project, I believe this project should be given the green light.

There should be no losers in this situation. If the Drayton South Coal Project is to be rejected, the loss would be felt profoundly, not just within the immediate community, but statewide. It is a loss that can be avoided. It would be a loss based on an empty threat made by opposing horse studs, Coolmore and Darley who have stamped their feet long enough in opposition and made zero effort to compromise.

I have genuine questions. Questions that have not yet been answered by any media outlet. I ask the studs, what do they do to contribute positively to the community? I ask why their industry should be prioritised over one that has been operating within the community for decades? I ask how many Australian citizens are employed full-time by their operations? I ask the owners, why they specifically chose to establish a business next to an open cut coal mine that had the intention of expanding? And finally, I ask how have Coolmore and Darley attempted to co-exist; what have they done to meet Anglo American halfway and see that two industries continue to work alongside one another? Why have they not compromised?

Common sense should prevail here. Co-existence is achievable. The PAC's recommendations and advice have been fulfilled by Anglo American. Peer-reviewed, evidence-based studies have been undertaken to end speculation as to whether or not the Drayton South Coal Project will have adverse effects on the horses residing at these studs. It will not. This cannot be disputed.

If we can trust medical professionals with our health, who also base their practice on unbiased, evidence-based, peer-reviewed studies, how can this be challenged? How can Dr Cameron Collins and the HTBA continue to dispute the evidence when it is there in black and white? How can they sit back and allow 500 families to suffer knowing full-well there will be no ill-effects on the animals and that the ability to co-exist is real?

If the likes of Gai Waterhouse and the rest of the big-wigs of the racing industry are happy to continue spending their millions on yearlings that are bred within 130m of Mt Arthur Coal, why

do they continue to oppose Drayton South? Their spending money on horses who live in close proximity to an established coal mine is a complete contradiction to what they claim. Approval of the Drayton South Coal Project will not deter this spending and the industry will not suffer.

Any doubt for future investors will not be due to approval of the Drayton South Coal Project, it will be due to the fact that the HTBA have garnered the focus of negative attention on themselves by exaggerating the non-existing effects of the Drayton South Coal Project.

Anglo American have stuck to the facts throughout the approval process every time. There has been no slander. No biased reports. No coercing the media. No recruitment of millionaires to play the victim card. They have supported their cause instead of attacking the opposition.

The HTBA claims themselves, Coolmore and Darley to be the victim in this situation. This is untrue. The real victims here are not Gai Waterhouse, Gerry Harvey and Co, not Coolmore and Darley, not even the horses bred at these studs; the real victims are the workers and the families of the workers of Drayton Coal who will be left with no jobs and a bleak future.

It is time to stop the battle and mediate this situation. Choose a middle ground and allow these two businesses to co-exist without the need for back and forth banter.

It's time for NSW Planning and Environment and the Planning & Assessment Commission to use their common sense and stand by their recommendations and advice. Do what is in the best interest of the community. Do what is in the best interest of the workers of Drayton Coal.

Do what is in the best interest of the economy.

Support The Drayton South Coal Project.

Sincerely,

Mrs Holly Tweedie.