

Billy Magner
Coolmore Stud
3367 Golden Highway
Jerrys Plains NSW 2330

June 17 2015

The Secretary
The Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Via email: matthew.sprott@planning.nsw.gov.au

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Objection to Drayton South Coal Project Application Number: SSD 6875

I am writing to express my extreme concern regarding the Drayton South Coal Application.

I live and work on Coolmore Stud with my family including my wife and four children.

I started working for Coolmore in Ireland in 1978 and subsequently moved to Coolmore Australia. We moved to the Hunter Valley in the hope of raising our family here and have become very involved in our local community including schools, swimming club, pony club and rugby.

We are very concerned for our future and having travelled the world visiting other internationally recognised horse studs, are completely amazed the impact mining has had on this region. To allow Drayton South to proceed could quite possibly signal the end of horse studs in this area of the valley which has a serious knock on effect for the rest of the industry. There is an incredible network of support industries who also rely on the farm for their livelihoods.

I first travelled to Australia with stallions for Coolmore in 1986 and have since watched in dismay at the progressive lack of balance between the mining industry and other agricultural enterprises.

Having worked with thoroughbred horses for the past 38 years of my life I can not stress highly enough the implications of changes in environment placed on thoroughbreds in regards to their health and wellbeing.

It will be too late to decide the mine is too close to a horse stud if the mine is approved and we end up with mares/foals doing damage to themselves and/or staff because of the impact of the mine. Thoroughbreds are not comparable to any other breed of horse due to their highly sensitive nature. On occasions I have seen people and horses injured because of the thoroughbred's incredibly reactive senses.

Coolmore is respected and admired the world over, it is seen as a leader in its field through experience, success and the people who work there. It has been a "university" of sorts over the years and a huge amount of people who are at the forefront of the thoroughbred industry

have learnt the ropes here. I am proud to work here however should the mine go ahead, for the sake of my family we would have to consider moving away.

Please don't risk the health of our children, the future of our industry or the beauty of the Hunter Valley for the sake of a mine that for all intents and purposes looks like an economic no brainer.

Yours sincerely,

Billy Magner
by email