



The Secretary
Objecting to new Drayton South Mine
The Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

To the Department and Assessors of the new Drayton South mine.

I live and work in the Hunter Valley and object to this new mine. My family also live and work in the Hunter and run a rural industry supplies business.

I have not made a submission in the past about any mine. I now do so as I do not understand why Anglo's Drayton South is getting a second chance (really 3rd chance given two planning assessment commissions held already). The community and our historical landscape will not get a second chance.

I object to this new mine as I do not believe it is in the Public's interest and have not seen in the mine's submission how it is to benefit now and for future generations to have our historical landscape further destroyed when looking at the massive cumulative landscape change in the Hunter Valley. Where are the intergenerational transfer impacts considered, in terms of what we are leaving of our once pristine landscape and resources and how our communities character and diversity is weakened and, as we are witnessing in the Hunter, complete loss of communities and history.

Why are we not redirecting the massive departmental and "experts" costs towards renewable energy sources being introduced? Renewable energy sources are our future particularly if the ecological and landscape impact are less destructive and stressful for communities.

It is difficult to live in a divisive community where the tension has increased with regards to mining vs agriculture. This should not be the way, but the government of the day have pushed the community to this junction. Where is the leadership and planning to ensure mines know where they can and can't go with confidence, ensure preservation of the agricultural land, history, ecology and diversity of the communities for future generations? We have lost and are losing our vineyards to mines. I understand non mine ownership of vineyards in our areas has been reduced to 2.

We are losing the character and cultural identity of this region to mining. Yes mining is part of this community – however one industry that threatens the diversity of our towns and pushes out other viable industries that also have history and provide long term employment beyond a mine life should not be granted the right to do so.

The Hunter Valley is widely regarded for its prime agricultural land, tourism, vineyards, river flats – the dairy farms have all but gone (I think down to 2 in the upper hunter, like the vineyards), industrialisation is important and contributes to the economy, but it should not dominate or take over this valley, causing irreversible damage in so many ways – community (health and cultural diversity), environment and, historical landscape.

From my limited knowledge, I do not see from the Drayton South's Executive summary a meaningful discussion or evidence on the cumulative impacts on our health, landscape and community character of the region.

The commission advised against this new mine twice...

Thank you for considering my submission objecting to this new mine.

