

19 June 2015

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

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

Dear Ms McNally

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

I am writing as a concerned employee of Coolmore Australia to object to the second application by Anglo American for the Drayton South open coal mine project.

██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ the mining in the surrounding areas had become so great that our health was suffering. We decided to relocate to a safer distance from the mines, whilst still being close enough to retain our jobs at Coolmore ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████ ██████████

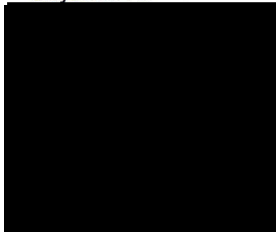
My reasons for objecting to this proposal are as follows:

- The impact this mining proposal will have on neighbouring industries and community: wine and thoroughbred industries are key employers in the region and the project is right across the road from the two biggest studs (one of which I work at - Coolmore) and the Hollydene winery. This will have flow on effects to the other producers and the community in the region.
- Lack of evidence that the land can be returned to a viable agricultural use post the mining project.
- Lack of affordable housing; as mining increases housing becomes unaffordable and rents skyrocket. This makes it hard for non-mining employees to find anywhere suitable to live.
- Increased congestion on roads leading to a greater likelihood of accidents/ decreasing safety. This is evidenced every day on my journey to and from work. There have been several fatalities on or near the intersection of the Golden and New England Highways at Whittingham in recent months. This is due to the increase in traffic in that area and has been worsened by the opening of the Hunter Expressway (something which was supposed to make travel safer and faster). Mine expansion will add to this problem as more and more traffic invades those roads.
- Dust effects on overall air quality. Concerns regarding the impact of continuing increases in mining dust on community health. The dust from the mines is already very evident and causes major health problems. This has been well documented, but no-one seems to want to heed the warnings of the medical profession. No cumulative impacts have been considered and they should be.

- The Drayton South proposal lacks consideration of all the cumulative impact of mines together in the region on dust, health, noise, traffic, safety and the character of the region and irreversibility of the damage caused.

There has been plenty of talk in the media about the 500 jobs that will be lost from Drayton South if their proposal doesn't get approval, but there are also plenty of other people in the area whose jobs rely on the proposal being rejected, as has been done so by the PAC previously. Aren't they just as important? There are so many other factors that need to be assessed before giving approval to something that has the potential to create long-term detriment to a community and the environment.

I respectfully ask that you register my objection to this proposal and seriously consider my objections when assessing the appropriateness of the Drayton South open cut coal Proposal.



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