

19/6/15
The Secretary
The Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001 (On-line submission)

Dear Secretary

COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE

Objection to new open cut mine proposal for Drayton South

I am writing as a local, born and raised in the Hunter Valley, who has worked in the mines and thoroughbred industry. I want to continue raising my young family in this area.

My profession is Information Technology.

██ As far as I am aware, the IT department/support services have been shifted overseas. This is occurring with most mining companies in the Hunter Valley and I understand Anglo may have also done the same. ██████████ was made redundant from a major mine by closing down their IT department, with the service provided off shore by Singapore. – ██████ staff remaining had the 'opportunity' to reapply for an IT job with a contractor. This does not provide any job security or diversity of job opportunities in the Hunter Valley.

I ██████████ now work in the thoroughbred industry in our profession.

I am very concerned about the cumulative impacts of yet another mine on our quality of life – change in natural environment and health impacts – whilst there are many unknowns there are also the obvious. I recognise there is no definitive link as yet but it appears the younger children are impacted by their environment which is surrounded by open cut mines and coal trains.

The tourism of this valley relies on its brand of the Hunter Valley – viticulture, agriculture, national parks and rivers – ie the pristine environment and landscape. Further erosion of our surrounding environment is not sustainable. I want to remain living in a rural setting – which is now tainted by dirty air you can taste and smell, which means we are breathing it in. We cannot sustain further erosion of our environment and the subsequent impacts.

Thank you and please consider my objections, particularly job impacts and long term security. The mines if allowed to continue to dominate and some cases remove our communities, will accelerate current industry and job diversity.

██████████
██████████
████████████████████