

From: [Graeme O'Brien](#)
To: [Matthew Sprott](#)
Subject: Objection to Drayton South Project SSD 6875
Date: Thursday, 18 June 2015 9:06:02 PM

The Secretary
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney 2001

Dear Ms McNally,

I write in consequence of a second application to extend the Drayton South Mine.

I have lived in the Upper Hunter for over 45 years and I am descendant of a person who travelled to this country on the first fleet. My wife and I have raised local trade cattle since January 1970 have run a vineyard operation growing premium grapes since 1998.

Points of Objection:

1. Coal mining is not economic when all of the factors are included.
2. Destruction of quality farming and grazing land
3. Open Cut mining destroys the microbiology of the soil. The land that is mined cannot be rehabilitated to what it was.
4. What right does a business have to destroy another?
5. There is no safe level of the amount of dust entering the lungs of humans and I posit for horses too.
6. Tourists do not visit the Hunter Valley to see coalmines. There is a myriad of better options.
7. The size of unfilled final voids.
8. Impact on the wine industry.
9. Light spillage at night.
10. Noise!!!
11. Water quality at residences.
12. The horse industry has been around for a lot longer than coal mines and will be still there when the coal is gone.
13. Miners preach "co-existence" but it is always on their terms.
14. The EIS process is flawed. DPE do not have the capability or do not want to examine the claims made by mining proponents. They are just accepted as fact. To my knowledge, there has never been an EIS that did not support what the proponent wanted.
15. The economic benefits are grossly overstated.
16. Co-existence is a managerial wank work - it does not and will not work.
17. Mining is like a fungus - it starts and just continues to grow to the detriment of the environment.

I ask that you register my objection to this proposal and give serious consideration to my concerns with respect to this application.

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17/06/15
By email to Matthew Sprott