

The Director, Mining Projects
Development Assessment Systems
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Department of Planning & Infrastructure
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Name. ROBERT MURRAY
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Date. Gloucester

ROCKY HILL COAL PROJECT
Application No. SSD 5156

I've lived in Gloucester for more years than I care to remember and wish to state that I oppose this development. Gloucester is and has been a farming district ever since it was opened up. The air is clean, the rivers are clean. All this will change despite GRL trying to ensure us it won't. Southerlies are common in our valley and the dust from the mine will blow over the homes and town. It will pollute drinking water tanks. It will get into our lungs. Lots of people particularly children and those of senior years will suffer breathing problems, asthma; some may die because of the dust from the mine.

We've already got the Stratford mine and not all that far from Gloucester. I don't want another mine and certainly not this close to town. Neither do at least 80% of Gloucester residents according to 3 separate surveys of Gloucester residents recently.

Then there's the promise of riches for Gloucester. "Additional rates revenue of more than 3 million dollars". If that's spread over 20 years it's not going to do much. Council has already indicated it doesn't want the mine and doesn't want black money. Also according to GRL's record of meeting with the Gloucester Chamber of Commerce, 30th May 2012, "When Stratford (mine) opened it didn't really make much difference to the town in terms of real estate prices, employment or dollar spend". Why would it be any different with this mine?

There are consequences if this mine comes to town. Look at the debatable benefits to Gloucester, the modest royalties to the State Government because of the near certainty the mine won't be viable with the price of coal tumbling. Then look at the certain destruction of the landscape, the emotional distress that many are already suffering and the collateral damage; the health problems that will result from a mine so close to town.

On balance I believe the Rocky Hill Coal Project should not proceed.

I have not made any reportable donations to a political party.

Yours faithfully,

R Murray
26-9-2013.