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Director, Mining Projects
Development Assessment Systems & Approvals
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
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Dear Sir

**ROCKY HILL COAL PROJECT
DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION SSD-5156**

I am writing to oppose the Gloucester Resources Ltd's development application for an open cut coal mine within 6kms of the Gloucester township. My reasons follow:

Noise and Health. This mine is far too close to Gloucester and the Forbesdale Estate. Noise and coal dust from coal train movements and loading - potentially at night - is a great concern. Very fine coal dust is a critical issue that GRL has not attended to - and which appears to be outside of the NSW government's interest. No one seems to be dealing with the sub 2.5 to 1 micron particles - yet these are the ones that travel furthest in the air and are able to enter the bloodstream through the lungs.

Traffic will increase substantially and heavy vehicles will be a continuing problem.

Further Expansion. I do not believe that the mine will stay at its proposed size. GRL will expand towards town and will seek to mine coal on its other two exploration licence areas along the Bucketts Way.

Economics. Already GRL has acquired 29 properties and the owners have left their land and farming businesses. I do not accept that GRL's economic assertions, nor its 'compensation' to Gloucester, nor its royalties to NSW are sufficient reason to ruin the environment and water systems of this valley. I do not accept that it is reasonable to inflict harm and suffering on people and communities simply for the profit of a company - or for royalties.

Rehabilitation is not possible. GRL will permanently damage the geology and its water systems. They will bring to the surface and discard waste coal. Potentially 30% of what is mined becomes a legacy contaminant for someone other than GRL to worry about.

There is no state reason to mine this coal and there is no sane reason to damage this valley and community.

Please refuse GRL's application.

