

Director, Mining Projects
Development Assessment Systems & Approvals
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Name:

Address:

S. Gardener
449 Tupperary Rd
Tupperary 2429

Dear Sir

ROCKY HILL COAL PROJECT – DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION SSD-5156

I am writing to oppose 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.

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 clearly outside GRL's interest and capability. They will permanently damage 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.

GRL's interest is to do the cosmetics and hand back the legacy.

No explanation has been given as to how a coal-dependent Gloucester will be restarted after the mines close - and at what cost.

Treatment of this Community. GRL has not been honest with Gloucester. It secretly bought land under a number of names. Its EIS fails to tell the truth about community opposition and fails to tell the truth about the methods used to get 'willing sellers' of properties. I hope the Assessment Committee will detect these. GRL refuses to state clearly its intentions regarding projected expansion towards Gloucester and along the valley. However we do know that GRL does aspire to exploit the coal resource to the maximum

extent. We were fobbed off by Minister MacDonald stating that GRL 'was only exploring'. We pin-pointed where GRL would start mining. MacDonald said 'Hose the community down'. We need your help.

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

Please use the full extent of the Precautionary Principle. Please defend the notion of fairness and humanity for people over profit.

Please refuse GRL's application.

I have made no political donations.

S. Gardiner
19/9/13.