

Matthew DiMaggio - Submission Opposing the Rocky Hill Coal Project - SSD5156

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To: <information@planning.nsw.gov.au>
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Subject: Submission Opposing the Rocky Hill Coal Project - SSD5156

NOTE These are Dept of Planning MANDATORY fields.

My NAME is: Mark Merritt

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We live In The Only Known Habitat In The Universe.

I say there is only one Habitat. There are different climates, environments and ecosystems within The Habitat, but there are no different habitats. There is no separation or division to the integrity of The Habitat. The Habitat is the one place known to support life, which we share with all other living things on this Earth. Joined by gravity, soil, water, air and temperature The Habitat is a singularity.

It could be argued that our Habitat includes all that there is in the universe. But, no matter what your position of relativity or point of view, our Earth and near/orbital space is where we will be remaining for most, if not all of our combined futures. Even though an artificial habitat can sustain a person in orbit for rather long periods, the eventual need to restore and recreate health on Earth is prohibiting any plans of long distance space travel for people.

As clearly the dominant species on the only living planet, the only known Habitat in our galaxy, we have one chance only, to care for and protect the balance of many life supporting systems in our world.

The fearful, aggressive extractive nature of human activity over the past one thousand years, and the fiscal-fiasco we call The Economy has resulted in massive alterations to our Habitat around the planet and is directly responsible for the permanent extinction of many plant and animal species, and has even altered the thermal dynamics and chemical processes of our atmosphere and oceans.

Now that human culture has invented and created fiscal systems that run and rely wholly on money, there is a growing disconnect developing between people, our economy and our ecology.

Every time we change The Habitat to support business and a thing ironically called progress, we permanently alter systems that have taken tens or hundreds of thousands, even millions of years to develop. Once altered it is nearly impossible to interpret and predict what will happen with these systems in the long-term parameters of geologic time.

As we head into an ever shortening future, to continue on with "business as usual" would be in my mind be extremely stupid. We must work toward better preservation of The Habitat while we transition to the development of sustainable values, low carbon technologies and a viable carbon economy.

Fear, one of the driving mechanisms of conquest and the industrial consumer economy will need to be diminished substantially around the planet if new values and a sustainable life's ethic is to ever be realised.

From now on the near future will likely be a grab-bag of do-or-die attempts at redeveloping out-dated mining and agricultural systems and restoring Earth's life support systems to some sort of balance. Our present situation needs to be seen as our good luck, because collectively people accomplish big things very quickly in geologic time scales. By using our best technologies, people can make the big actions of redeveloping and restoring natural systems in a relatively quick geologic time.

I urge you to consider very carefully the legacy your decisions, lifestyles and behaviors will leave for future generations of your own family, and on our one only Earth, the one and only known Habitat of any life, anywhere.

I strongly oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project – SSD5156

Sincerely – Mark Merritt 0427 571 770

Nambucca Heads, New South Wales, 2448

Please consider – People do not spoil the Earth, corporations do.

I have not made a reportable political donation.