

POBox 243
Gloucester, 2422

The Director, Mining Projects
Development Assessment Systems & Approvals
Department of Planning & Infrastructure
GPOBox 39
Sydney, 2001

15 October, 2013

Dear Sir

RE: ROCKY HILL COAL PROJECT, APPLICATION No. SSD5156

I am writing to oppose the Gloucester Resources Ltd's Development Application for the Rocky Hill open cut coal mine in close proximity to Gloucester.

My family and I moved to Gloucester nearly 17 years ago drawn to its' scenic attractions, proximity to Barrington Tops National Park and, most importantly, clean air and water. We considered Gloucester a good place in which to raise our two children.

Stratford coal mine existed but the general community understanding was that it was a 'boutique' coal mine with a very limited life (about 6 years) and far enough from Gloucester not to directly affect the health and lifestyle of those who live there. Stratford mine has since extended northward toward Gloucester and a mine further south, Duralie, has also opened.

The current proposal for the Rocky Hill mine brings open cut mining operations to within 2km of residential developments and within 3km of hospital, High School, and township. Many of those residences in close proximity are of recent (5 – 10yrs) build and their owners have experienced marked devaluations with the threat of the Rocky Hill application. Unquestionably this has created undue stress and for many a real drop in their superannuation investment and lifestyle prospects.

Further, if the Rocky hill mine is approved and proceeds, the health of all Gloucester residents will suffer through dust, noise and reduced scenic amenity. Clean air and water, due to water table disruption in the Avon valley, also impacted by impending AGL coal seam gas extraction, will be a thing of the past.

The Rocky Hill coal resource is relatively small and claimed economic benefits for Gloucester and the State will be negligible in the long term. Current mining activity in and around the Vale of Gloucester has contributed little economically to Gloucester with many employees travelling from away to work. Income from pastoral activities and tourism will also diminish.

The proposed Rocky Hill coal mine is a flawed concept. I would ask that Gloucester Resources Rocky Hill coal mine Development Application be denied such that Gloucester can be permanently protected.

Yours faithfully



Rod Burrows