

Name Diana Simmons

Address 352 Barrington West Road

Date 12/10/2013 Barrington NSW 2422

ROCKY HILL COAL PROJECT

Application No. SSD 5156

I oppose this proposal

My family and I are regular visitors to beautiful Gloucester and the Barrington Tops area and we are appalled at the prospect of a new coal mine in the valley to the south of Gloucester. If it goes ahead it will destroy the beautiful vista that we always enjoy looking across the Avon Valley and to the Mograni Range. Gloucester being the gateway to the magnificent rainforests of Barrington Tops National Park should be protected.

Information I received explained the National park forms part of the Gondwana Rainforests of Australia's World Heritage Area. Carved out of ancient volcanic flows, the park rises from near sea level to over 1500m and protects one of the largest temperate rainforests in mainland Australia, along with a host of diverse habitats and wide range of birds and animals. That's why we and many others visit Gloucester. It is essential this is protected.

If the mine proceeds then my family will not want to visit this area again. The tourism operators would see a reduction in numbers visiting. Already some of the farmers have been bought out by mining companies and the people of Gloucester will only benefit from diverse businesses. It is interesting to note that all surveys showed that well over 80% of Gloucester people don't want this mine and my family supports their opposition to it. Are these people just expendable, collateral damage?

I am worried too about the safety travelling along the Bucketts Way if the mine should go ahead. It is a single-lane road, in parts narrow and in poor condition, and with absolutely no overtaking lanes. More vehicles, trucks and tankers travelling along it will put users in extreme danger.

I have made no reportable political donations.

Yours faithfully

Diana Simmons