



PCU048944

Date: 2/10/13

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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 oppose the Gloucester Resources Ltd's development application for an open cut coal mine near the Gloucester township.

The government needs to acknowledge that Gloucester is worth protection. The government has only recognised Gloucester's worth as a source of mineral and petroleum resources to be 'harvested' - regardless of community concerns. These concerns relate to personal health, children's health, environment, permanent damage to water and soil systems, and jeopardising the long term self-sustaining industries that have generated naturally in this community.

GRL makes much of the employment opportunities for Gloucester. Opportunities are not jobs. The Gloucester experience is that mining jobs commonly are filled by drive-in-drive-out workers who spend very little of their money in Gloucester. These workers are drawn from the ready supply of qualified staff in the Hunter and from larger population centres along the coast.

On the matter of noise, GRL will not state definitively when coal trains will be loaded - a process they project will take 90 minutes per train. GRL needs to declare that there will be a curfew on rail operations.

Jacks Rd, Bucketts Way and Forbesdale Estate, residents live within 2Km of the proposed mine, families enjoy a healthy and peaceful life. This will be lost by day. Their nights will consist of strong lights reflecting off airborne coal dust, the noises of various vehicles, coal being loaded on coal trains for 90 minutes per train and the noise of the coal conveyor as it fills the coal loader. All this will happen in a small valley every night of their lives. GRL has no answer for this.

There is no rational reason why Gloucester Vale should be permanently damaged for the comparatively small coal resource being sought.

Please refuse GRL's Rocky Hill coal mine proposal and permanently protect Gloucester and closely settled areas.

I have not made a reportable political donation.

Yours Faithfully

