

Mr Barry O'Farrell, MP
PREMIER of NSW
Level 40, Governor Macquarie Tower,
1 Farrer Place,
SYDNEY, NSW, 2000

Dear Premier,

I recently had the opportunity to visit Gloucester on the mid north coast of NSW. As part of the tour I visited "The Hillview Herb Farm" located at Forbesdale, 5km south of Gloucester. I was dismayed to learn that Forbesdale is the location for the proposed ROCKY HILL open cut coal mine, for which approval is currently being sought.

The proposed mine is located within an environmental and scenic protection zone and as such is opposed not only by Gloucester residents but has the unanimous support of Gloucester Shire Council. The mine will be located as close as 900m of the rural residential estate, affecting over 30 homes that surround the Herb Farm which itself is less than 2km away.

The valley view from the Herb Farm is stunning, the produce grown in clean country air using clean rainwater. This small family run agriculture and tourist business will be critically affected as will be the health and amenity of those residents that surround it at Forbesdale, if the mine is allowed to proceed.

Gloucester is a town that has evolved since its establishment more than 150 years ago and is currently a significant tourist destination as the gateway to the heritage listed Barrington Tops National Park as well as having a strong agricultural base.

I fully understand that there exists a need for mining in Australia and that the royalties that are received by NSW are significant and necessary. I do not, however, understand that we need to approve of mining in any and every location regardless of the impact that it has on the land and the people that surround it.

I would ask, therefore, that you do all in your power to ensure that the ROCKY HILL MINE is not approved and the town's next evolution is not the destruction of a magnificent valley, destruction of the lifestyle of the people who live there and the eventual destruction of a wonderful country town. It is the scenery and sense of community which attracts a visitor like me.

Yours respectfully,

Name (please print) Cheryl Parrott
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Signature Cheryl Parrott
Date 10-8-13