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Personal Submission to Rocky Hill Coal Project:

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Gloucester is a small rural town currently suffering the same degeneration as most other NSW small rural towns!

While I do not live in the Gloucester area I was born in the small country town of Barraba in North West NSW!

My mother still lived there!

Barraba has always been predominantly supported by agricultural operations but was also supported by mining ventures until their demise!

Over time many local businesses & services have either failed or the proprietors have aged & retired closing their unsaleable businesses due to the town's downturn!

Only one small grocery store survives!

Distances of many kilometres are taken often to see doctors, dentists, banking institutions & just about everything else & it pains me to see my home town dying knowing that is too late to stop the demise of Barraba!

I am hoping that just maybe this submission could help Gloucester get a second chance!

AMCI and their Rocky Hill Coal Project are offering a possible reversal of this downward motion for Gloucester by increasing job prospects & business opportunities in the town which in turn will encourage young people to stay or move to (or back to) the Gloucester area! This would have a direct impact on reversing the aging population & encourage growth & industry!

Gloucester is a pretty town so I understand some locals are fighting to "save their town" but without change, (in a few short years) there may not be anything left worth saving!

I am writing this in support of this new opportunity for Gloucester & her people & hoping Gloucester will survive into the future!

Best regards



James Russell