

28 th. August 2016.



Donald A Readford  
4 Clement Street,  
Gloucester, NSW, 2422

Planning Services,  
Department of Planning and Environment  
GPO Box 39, SYDNEY 2001  
Attention : Director – Resources and Energy.

**Project Name : Rocky Hill Coal Project**  
**Project No. : SSD 5156**

Department of Planning  
Received  
1 SEP 2016  
Scanning Room

Dear Sir / Madam

I support the Rocky Hill Coal Project going ahead for the following reasons;

There has been considerable community interest on the issue of the proposed Rocky Hill mining project located near the small locality of Gloucester in the State of New South Wales. This is particularly evident from a vocal minority led by a well known local protagonist of the 'green' movement, and is supported to the very best of my knowledge by organisations such as 'Greenpeace' and 'Lock the Gate.'

As a long standing resident of Gloucester, I have viewed the machinations, intimidation tactics against a few businesses by elements of the 'green' movement that has resulted in dividing this once united community.

Today and once again, the community of Gloucester is being confronted by these same elements whose allegiance is inclined toward the religion of environmentalism and who are taking every opportunity to inhibit any future resource or industrial activity and in particular, the termination of the resource development such as the Rocky Hill open cut mining project.

My current residence is located at or about 4.50 kilometres in a straight line from the centre of the proposed open cut mine. Since becoming aware of its location I have taken numerous investigative trips to this area.

As a result and taking into account many aspects of the EIS as submitted to the State Department of Planning and Environment by the mining consortium and I see no reason whatsoever for this proposed mining venture not to proceed.

To claim for example by the anti-mining lobby that diesel fumes or dust accumulation and dispersion would provide a hazard to local health is simply ludicrous.

For example many trucks being diesel powered already pass around and through the town on a regular daily basis. Dust generation due to the already existing Stratford mine is totally quelled by water being sprayed on areas of activity and has never ever created a problem to those who live near or in close proximity to the mine.

Added to this, is the number of diesel powered trains, i.e., both goods and passenger pass through Gloucester on a regular basis. To terminate the proposed Rocky Hill open cut mine on the basis of diesel fumes would be hypocritical.

On the issue of utilizing explosive charges during mining operations I have intentionally visited an area located very close to the current Duralie open cut mining operations located some 15 kms. South of Gloucester, in order to gain first hand impressions of blasting operations.

As a result, I personally consider that long heavily laden goods trains which pass through Gloucester regularly and being close to where I live, make more sound than has been exhibited by blasting operations at the Duralie open cut mining complex.

In view of the fact that the proposed Rocky Hill open cut mine will not only provide gainful employment for at least 130 persons for a period of some eighteen years, but it will as I understand, produce high grade coking coal for steel manufacture.

Added to this is the much needed stimulus to the local economy.

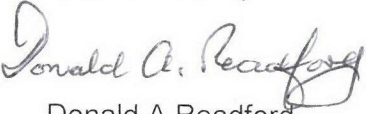
From a political standpoint, it is my belief as indeed many others that I personally know, is that if the proposed Rocky Hill mine is rejected it will provide a monumental victory to the local 'green' movement coupled to the 'Lock the Gate' fraternity.

It will also confirm that we are being governed by vocal minorities rather than what is best for our nation and our economy.

If the proposed mine is rejected then the flow on effect to Gloucester will be substantial, for this community is already suffering from an economic downturn.

In conclusion, as a resident of Gloucester, it is my hope that you will consider very carefully some of the aspects as previously mentioned and that you will as a result give final approval for this venture to continue.

Yours sincerely

  
Donald A Readford

NB : I have not made any reportable political donations in the past two years.