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Attention: Director – Resource Assessments

Rocky Hill Coal Project

Amended Development Application

Project No. SSD 5156

I wish to make a submission in support of the proposed Rocky Hill Coal Project.

My family have owned land and farmed in the Gloucester area for 112 years. The fifth generation of my family are currently attending school in the Gloucester community

Gloucester, historically, has been built on rural industries such as timber (mills closed down), dairy (factory closed down) and beef cattle which has always been subject to cyclical variations. The rural industries ensured that Gloucester's main street and service industries were vibrant and viable however that is no longer the case and the community requires an injection of opportunities to reenergise the town. Some suggest tourism is the answer however it can only provide a part of what is needed and is subject to external factors that preclude it from being a cure all.

Gloucester needs industry to expand as well as new industries to come to the town to enhance its growth and sustainability. With the advent of new businesses comes the sustainability benefits for the main street. Such expansion also provides significant benefits for schools to increase their numbers, providing more opportunity for students to study a greater variety of courses, sporting clubs to enhance their community input as well as churches and other community organisations becoming more viable.

My family have been very involved in voluntary work within the community for the period they have lived and worked in the Gloucester area. This involvement has seen support, as well as ongoing involvement, for development of the Gloucester Soldiers Memorial Hospital, Gloucester Showground, sporting clubs and facilities and other community organisations.

The development of the Rocky Hill Coal Mine does not put at risk any of the above developments that my family have been involved in and in my view will enhance all such organisations and activities. My reasoning for this is that with the proposed development will come employment opportunities, growth in population which will ensure better numbers in our schools and sporting