

Nicola Chirlian

“Tallawang”

358 Cattle Creek Road

WILLOW TREE NSW 2339

27/9/2016

The Director –

Resource Assessments

Planning Services

Department of Planning & Environment

GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

I have not made a reportable political donation

Do publish my name and details

Dear Sir/Madam

I am writing to you to express my opposition to the Rocky Hill Coal Project, Application No SSD – 5156, and the Stratford Coal Extension Project – Application No SSD -4966 MOD 1

As a visitor to Gloucester I cannot see how an open cut coal mine can co-exist with other industries in the area. This is such a beautiful area, well catered for tourists and I am sure that tourism be one of the important industries in the valley, benefiting the local economy. I cannot imagine that tourists would choose to stay in Gloucester with an unsightly coal mine in the valley on the way into town.

I look at the tragic moonscape that now scars the Hunter Valley, and am appalled that your Government would consider wreaking the same damage onto Gloucester. I have waited for mining explosions on Hunter Valley roads, and have viewed and smelt the orange dust clouds – surely this would contaminate agricultural production in a small valley such as Gloucester?

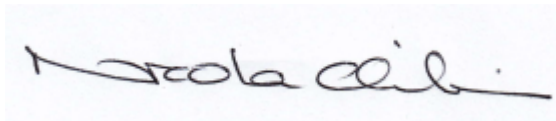
Likewise, I live daily with mining vehicles travelling to the Gunnedah minefields – I cannot imagine that the little roads around Gloucester are suitable for constant heavy traffic, particularly if they have to share the roads with holidaymakers.

The mine is just a short distance from homes and families. How can this be approved? The health impacts will be paramount for those residents, negating the clean air, water and peaceful environment. Negative health impacts of coal mines have been clearly delineated by the Australian Medical Association – why would you ignore the Doctors advice and knowingly impose danger on the people of Gloucester?

Like so many Australian mines, I believe that this one will be also to be foreign owned – with profits (and possibly taxes) not coming to Australian residents.

I would also ask you to let me know who originally approved this mine – if it is a left over from the previous Labour Government then I would most concerned about the application and approval process – please advise me of this. If it has been a project overseen by the Coalition Government then I will be sorely disappointed if you approve it to commencement.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Nicola Cilli", written on a light blue background.