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Delete my personal information before publication no

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Director – Resource Assessments

Planning Services

Department of Planning & Environment

GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

Rocky Hill Coal Project – Application No SSD-5156

Stratford Coal Extension Project – Application No SSD - 4966 MOD 1

Dear Sir/Madam

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project and Stratford Mine modification on the following grounds

1. Proximity to residential areas

The mine proposed is only 900 metres from the residential area of Forbesdale and only approx 5kms from Gloucester with other residential estates approx. 2 kms from the mine site. These residents will carry an unacceptable burden and will be impacted by dust, noise and loss of amenity, resulting in risks to their health and loss of property value. (I was talking with my neighbour the other day & he said “look at the black dust on the southern wall of my house” it was absolutely filthy, & I believe it comes from the Stratford mine (almost 10 Kms to the south) & we get a lot of southerly winds in this area. So think how this will impact Gloucester if this mine goes ahead (Gloucester is only 5Kms to the north of the proposed Rocky Hill Mine).

2. Impacts on Health

Health impacts from open-cut coal mines are well documented. With most of Gloucester township, including the hospital and schools, falling within the 5km health impact zone of the Rocky Hill mine, this places a large percentage of the population at risk. Those most affected by the health impacts are the very young, the elderly and the sick. The long term health costs to the community & government will in my view far outway any financial royalties the government may receive from the export of coal from this mine.

2.1 Noise, Coal & Diesel Pollution

This is a Quiet peaceful township with a low 24 to 26 decibel noise level. GRL are suggesting an increase to 35 DB noise level. I live in the Avon River Estate approx 2 Kms from the proposed Stage 1 mine site but, the main access road to the Mine is Jacks Road which is only ??? mtrs away. GRL must be expecting a significant increase in traffic because I believe they are going to spend around \$2 million on an upgrade to Jacks Road. So the noise & Diesel pollution will be intolerably.

As for the trucking of the coal from the mine to the Stratford washery via the Private Haul Road, I believe a figure of 1 truck every 8 minutes is quoted. Well even though the road is to be partly sealed, the dust from the uncovered trucks & the diesel emissions a major concern especially in southerly windy conditions.

3. Impact on Tourism, worth \$51M per annum to the Gloucester economy

An open-cut coal mine within 5km of Gloucester and within sight of the Bucketts Way will have an impact on the visual amenity of the area. The mine will risk the jobs of hundreds employed in the tourism industry.

4. Environment

The proposed mine is in the Avon Valley and in the catchment area of the Manning River. This supplies drinking water to over 80,000 people. There is definite potential for contamination of the water in the catchment.

Conclusion.

There are many other facts & figures that I am sure other people against the proposed mine with more expertise than me can & will supply but, I believe the above concerns should be sufficient warning that

THIS MINE SHOULD NOT BE APPROVED

Yours faithfully

Anthony Tate

I have not made a reportable political donation