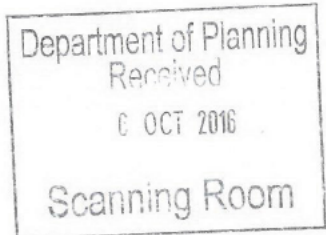


PCU067366

Please delete my personal information before publication

1 October 2016

Director – Resource Assessments
Planning Services
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001



Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Rocky Hill Coal Project – Application No SSD-5156
Stratford Coal Extension Project – Application No SSD – 4966 MOD 1

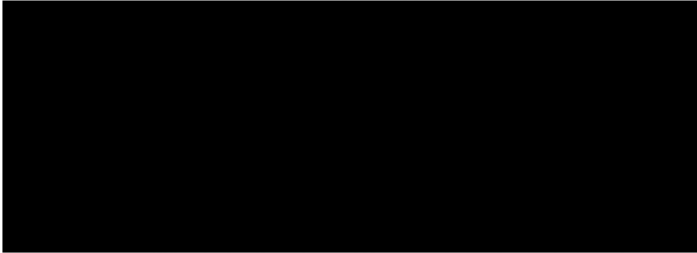
I **oppose** the Rocky Hill Coal Project and Stratford Mine modification on the following grounds:

1. **Impacts on Health.** The adverse effects on health of mining-generated dust is well recognised. The proximity of the mine to residential areas (only 900 metres from Forbesdale, and the township of Gloucester lies within the 5 km health impact zone of the mine) will create health problems for the residents, especially the young, the elderly and the sick. All will be impacted by dust and noise, as well as stress related to loss of property values etc. The lack of future security (i.e. after 3 years) to ensure that the mine is not worked 24/7 adds to anxiety and stress.
2. **Impacts on Tourism.** The sight of an ugly open cut mine close to Gloucester and visible from the Bucketts Way, combined with the noise and dust generated by it and the trucking of coal, can only have a negative effect on tourism which currently generates \$51 million per annum to the Gloucester economy.
3. **Environment.** Situated as it is in the Avon Valley, in the catchment area for the Manning River, there is a real danger that contamination could affect the drinking water of over 80,000 people. The disposal of salt water from the mine also presents a potential for soil contamination affecting agriculture and grazing.
4. **Rehabilitation of the Mine Site.** The EIS presents the impression that green slopes will occur six months after commencing 'amenity barriers' but admits that it could take 7 years to get full vegetation cover, though in reality this could be never. How are the voids going to be filled? We already have the example of the mine at Stratford which the people of Gloucester were initially told would be a "boutique" mine giving the community a site for aquatics after mining finished!! Now it is admitted the voids can never be filled, and even a lifetime of rain will not fill them.

How financially viable is the foreign owned mine company? And how certain can we be that the residents will not be left bearing the burden, health-wise and financially, of an open-cut

coal mine contaminating the soil and atmosphere, producing coal which is the main contributor to climate change which affects us all? The answer is that there is no certainty.

This mine should not be approved.



I have not made a reportable political donation.