

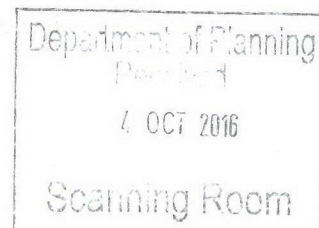


PCU067324

Paul Hedditch
32 Fairbairns Road
Gloucester 2422

29th September 2016

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



Rocky Hill Coal Project – Application No.SSD-5156

Dear Sir/Madam,

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project on the following grounds:

As the local dentist in Gloucester for the past 38 years I have noticed many patients with asthma and other respiratory diseases who will be adversely affected by the increased level of coal dust in the air. Many of these people most at risk are the elderly and children. Our health should be the government's first priority.

Gloucester has suffered economically over the last 30 years as two of our main industries have reorganised. The closure of the dairy factory and of timber mills in town had a lasting affect on the community. Tourism, based on our clean, green image has been our salvation. Destination NSW figures value it at 51million dollars per annum. An open-cut coalmine 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 local tourism industry.

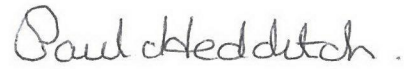
The proposed mine is on the Avon River floodplain and in the catchment area of the Manning River which supplies drinking water to over 80,000 people along the Mid North Coast. The Avon River floods regularly in the vicinity of the proposed mine. There is a definite potential for the contamination of the water in the catchment.

The economics of this mine do not make sense. Other mines in this area with proven coking coal deposits are putting off workers. This mine is in an area where the coal is deep, the seam not very wide and mixed with large areas of rock. It will be expensive to mine. GRL's competitiveness is Gloucester's concern. If Rocky Hill is uncompetitive in the medium term against large existing mines especially in Queensland, then Gloucester will have suffered entirely avoidable permanent damage to its environment and reputation. There is no assurance that Rocky Hill will deliver on its financial or employment claims over its 20 year life.

The mine will be within 900 metres of a housing subdivision. These people and others will be exposed to falling house prices, noise, coaldust, blasting and all this without any compensation from GRL.

This mine should not be approved

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul Hedditch".

Paul Hedditch

I have not made a reportable political donation.