

7 Forbesdale Close  
FORBESDALE NSW 2422

7<sup>th</sup> October 2016

The Director  
Resource Assessments Planning Services  
Department of Planning & Environment  
Box 39 GPO  
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Dear Sir

**Rocky Hill Coal Project – Application No. SSD 5156  
Stratford Coal Extension Project No. SSD 4966 MOD1**

As in my previous original submission made in 2013, I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project and the Stratford Mine modification under the amended DA/EIS, on the following grounds:

I am an affected home owner in the Forbesdale Estate, the residential area to be most affected by this proposed mine. The mine is too close to me, my family and my neighbours and it should not be allowed in close proximity to people.

The mining company, Gloucester Resources Ltd, has shown scant regard towards the Forbesdale community and in some maps in the amended DA/EIS the homes in the Forbesdale area have not even been shown – this is misleading as it makes to show there will be no people affected by the proximity of the mine. This is dishonest.

In 2010 at our invitation, my wife Robin and I met with the then Managing Director of GRL, Mr Keith Ross and the Manager of the project, Mr Grant Polwarth and we made known to them our vehement opposition to the proposed Rocky Hill open cut coal mine project and nothing has changed. Our property is within 1.25km of the mine site.

The dust, the noise, the blasting, the loss of visual amenity, the impacts to health are too great. A number of Forbesdale residents are elderly and some have major health issues – all of whom will be greatly impacted. The impact on mental health during the last four years as GRL has been pushing on with this, has been telling.

Furthermore, I am distressed about the inability to sell our home – our greatest asset – and if we can, we are very anxious about the huge loss we may have to take, in order to escape the impacts of this mine and the long term detrimental impact it will have on our future.

I oppose the Rocky Hill open cut coal mine, but should it be approved then a condition of consent MUST be that the homes in Forbesdale are placed in the acquisition zone.

Some of the other reasons why this mine should NOT be approved include: health impacts on the greater Gloucester population; the clean green image of the town and the impact of the loss of tourism; the potential for damage to air and water; the absolute loss of the visual beauty of the area; the impact on agriculture; the fact mining is not a sustainable industry and it will not “save” Gloucester despite pro-mining claims.

I have not made a reportable political donation.

Yours faithfully,



Rod Besier