

Noise

Dr Mariana Alves-Pereira from Lisbon's Lusofona University specialises in studying the effects of Low Frequency Sound on human beings. She says that people who live near open cut mines are exposed all day every day. Workers go home and their bodies get a rest away from it. Before they return to work again.

She says that governments should base their measurements of LFN on linear decibels and not weighted decibels that screen out noise frequency. This material was in the Newcastle Herald on 9/10/2016. Has this been taken into account for the properties affected by the mine?

Air quality

There will be more noise than Gloucester residents are used to. It will vary according to weather conditions. The dust levels will not be monitored because Gloucester's population is below the level that must have a constant monitor. The hours for working the mine are very long and it may be hard to sleep before the mine workers are home after the 10.00pm shift end.

My sister an aged pensioner like me, lives in Gloucester and has terrible asthma. She is already on the maximum dose of asthma medications. At times Gloucester has an air inversion due to the shape of the valley. This already causes air pollution from diesel vehicles which are more common in rural areas, petrol vehicles and wood fires for heating and cooking.

Objections

The previous Gloucester Council was strongly against development. The current amalgamated Council is also against it for numerous reasons. No need for me to repeat them.

I believe that if this project gets the go ahead, those who love Gloucester will fight it with civil disobedience. In the light of Climate Change and the dropping price of coal, it is ridiculous to hand this coal which is the property of the citizens of NSW to a company for perpetuity. The head of the IMF yesterday called for the whole world to hurry and move to renewables. Hy on earth open a coal mine in such an unsuitable location?

It is well documented when coal mines open in a district in Australia there's some new jobs at first. Mostly for outsiders. Inflation soon follows in particular with house prices and rentals. The poorer locals are pushed out and then after the initial rush to establish the mine, the numbers in the schools drop and there can be too few to make up sporting teams.

Noise and air quality detriments will affect tourism which currently is our biggest source of income and employment.