

11th October 2016



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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 No. SSD 4966 MOD1

Dear Sir/Madam

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project and the modification to the Stratford Coal Extension Project.

I relocated to Barrington / Gloucester from Sydney in 2008 after many visits to the area and I was impressed by the wonderful environment, clean air, welcoming community and incredible surrounding nature reserves and wildlife.

I researched the area prior to my purchase and was not alerted about any possible mining affecting the shire in the future.

I am greatly disappointed that this proposal to create such a dangerous environment for this community will tear this town and surrounding villages apart as well as divide the community forever. The children of this town will have their health affected for the rest of their lives.

The resale value of my property will be greatly reduced. Who would want to live in an area with a coal mine so close to the town and homes.

I am opposed to any more mines in the Gloucester area. The Rocky Hill mine will be the beginning of the end for our wonderful town.

Various groups in Gloucester, including Groundswell Gloucester and the Environment Group, will be lodging submissions against this mine. I totally support the content of these submissions.

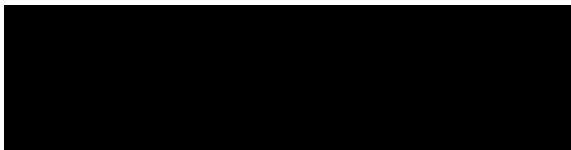
Despite GRL's statement that there will be no negative health impacts from Stage 1 of their mine, I cannot see how the evidence in the public domain regarding health impacts from open-cut coal mining can be ignored. I refer to Drs for the Environment and Dr Au of Singleton.

I am horrified that the proposed mine is to be built within 900metres of 30 homes and families. Why is the health of these people dismissed? I know some of those families and I know that the mental health impacts have been devastating. Why are these people considered collateral damage?

The visibility barriers are not aptly named. The barriers, erected to hide the mine workings, are in themselves, an eyesore. The steepness of the barriers will not allow vegetation to grow successfully but rather will be eroded by rain or create dust storms when it is windy.

GRL's claim that the mine will bring local employment is exaggerated and misleading. The Stratford mine had 60% of its workforce as DIDO's and the township did not reap the monetary rewards as promised.

The application for the Rocky Hill mine should be refused.
Yours faithfully

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I have not made a reportable political donation