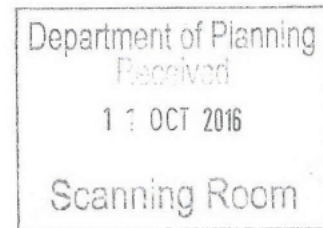


PCU067456

3rd Oct 2016.

Delete my personal information before publication yes

Director - Resource Assessments
Planning Services
Department of Planning & 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:

1. Proximity to residential areas

The mine is proposed only 900metres from the residential area of Forbesdale and too close to town. Residents will carry an unacceptable burden and will be impacted by dust, noise and loss of amenity, resulting in risks to their health and loss of property value. It is known that Rocky Hill coal mine is not viable with just stage 1 and so it is planning to mine even closer to town - this is just not acceptable. Gloucester has made it clear we don't want a coal mine. I oppose the mine.

2. Impacts on Health

Health impacts from open-cut coalmines are well documented. With most of Gloucester township, including the hospital and schools, falling within the 5km health impact zone of the Rocky Hill mine, this places a large percentage of the population at risk. Those most affected by the health impacts are the very young, the elderly and the sick. The geography of the area makes this an even greater risk. The government has a duty of care - before the problem. After the coal mine is operating is too late. As a tax payer I do not want to pay for the extra and avoidable cost of the health burden that will arise from the mine as shown in other mining areas.

3. Impact on Tourism, worth \$51M per annum to the Gloucester economy

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 tourism industry. The mine claims net benefit to NSW over the life of the mine to be \$89 million while the value of Gloucester tourism over the same 21 years to be worth \$1071 million which is sustainable and no cost to the government due to health issues etc. You should have seen the activity and energy in town over the long weekend - no mine could do that! This mine makes no sense on any level.

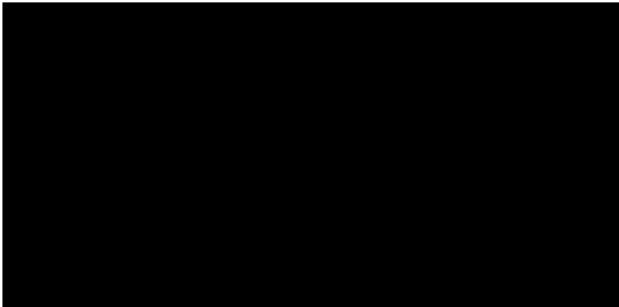
4. Environment

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. The Avon River has flooded 5 times in 4 years, with 2 floods occurring in 2013. There is definite potential for contamination of the water in the catchment. Also Werris Creek shows us what is likely to happen here – the water-table is down metres and the Werris Creek mine 'knows nothing about it'. (Whitehaven Werris Creek and Rocky Hill are related through at least two common owners.) Water is our most precious commodity we must not risk it at any cost.

5. Economics

GRL has ignored the long term impact on tourism, the loss of employment on family owned farms, reduced business activity in the agricultural service sector, and the impacts on tree-changer lifestyle industries such as the food and building industries

This mine should not be approved on so many levels and reasons.



I have not made a reportable political donation