

Annika Robinson
18/75 King St
Newcastle
NSW

17/9/2016
Director –
Resource Assessments Planning Services
Department of Planning & Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

**Submission for the Rocky Hill Coal Project – Application No SSD-5156
Stratford Coal Extension Project – Application No SSD - 4966 MOD1**

Dear Sir/Madam

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project together with the Stratford Mine Modification.

This mine will border my parents beef cattle farm where they still live and work on and where I grew up. The farm boundaries are the northern railway line on the west, Jacks Rd on the north, and GRL own the two properties on the south and east.

I want this mine stopped for the following reasons:

Traffic There will be an extra 100+ light vehicles per day traveling directly past our house. Rocky Hill proposed to widen Jacks Rd to cope with this increase, again a major disruption to their lives. With the increase of traffic on Jacks Rd they will be impacted both from the north, with traffic, and from the south and east by the mine itself.

Visibility is a major concern; no matter where you are on the property you will see the mine. For two years they will be watching the northern and western amenity barriers being built. The visual and noise pollution while these barriers are being built will be unacceptable. It is the effect this will have on my parent's mental health that concerns me greatly. The amenity barriers will always be a visual reminder of an open cut coalmine operating inside these barriers and no amount of vegetation will decrease the visual impact of these barriers. I believe they will be so steep vegetation will not grow quick enough before erosion happens.

Noise Infrasound and low frequency noise can travel great distances in quiet settings and in a narrow enclosed valley. It is possible that people living 10kms away may be impacted by this noise. The farmhouse is 2km from the closest mine disturbance so every day their lives will be effected.

Health Very fine coal dust is a critical concern. Dust will linger in this small valley especially in winter when the fog does not lift till 9-10am in the mornings. This is not acceptable and needs to be addressed.

I have been led to believe from my reading that anyone living within 5 km of an open cut coal mine will suffer diminished health. It is stated that coal pollutants affect all major body organ systems and contribute to four of the five leading causes of death (heart

disease, cancer, stroke and chronic lower respiratory disease) Therefore on health grounds alone this mine is far to close to my house and the farm.

Many friends working in the mining industry that visit are shocked that an open cut coal mine could be place so close to so many houses and farms. They all say we will all be covered in dust and subjected to large amounts of noise, living this close. Noise and dust is unavoidable in coal mining areas.

Our house relies on water tanks for domestic use with the greater levels of dust and pollutants in the air their health will again be at risk from drinking water.

Water The farm relies on the Avon River to water stock year round. At times the river stops flowing but there are always water holes for the cattle. This mine intends to defer water which runs off the Mograni Range into the Avon River, this directly effects the farm area.

GRL has already bought 30+ properties, if the proposal is approved GRL must be made to buy our family farm as well, as the stress of living and working next to an open cut coal mine will be too great for my parents.

I wish this government to stop the proposed open cut coal mine. It is too close to my family farm, too close to residential houses, too close to tourist businesses and too close to the Gloucester Township.

I have made no reportable political donations.

Yours truly,

Annika Robinson