

NSW Dept of Planning

Rocky Hill Coal Project  
Application No. SSD 5156

**I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Mine.**

**The Rocky Hill Coal Mine should not be approved.**

**The Rocky Hill Coal Mine should not go ahead.**

### **Our Situation**

Our Western boundary is beside the Rocky Hill Mine. It extends four kilometres. Our Southern Boundary is alongside Gloucester Coal/Yancoal. It's two kilometres long. We see the mine from our farm. We already see the giant pits abandoned by Gloucester Coal.

When Gloucester Coal's northern pit was being mined. Daily we heard the incessant noise of heavy equipment working the pits. At times our windows shook during blasting operations. Our lands, animals and houses were covered in airborne coal and dust pollution from the mine. Our animals suffered lung problems. I developed chronic lung disease and it became worse due to the coal, dust and diesel fumes pollution. At night we were woken by mining noise and the expanse of bright lights in the night sky from the coal washery and coal loader.

Rocky Hill Mine is next door. Our home is about two and a half kilometres from the pit. Our home is about 1 kilometre from the haul road.

Our prevailing winds are southerly and south westerly. The wind carried the noise and dust from Gloucester Coal. The same wind transports mine pollution from the pits, the rock crusher, the washery and the trucks. It enters our valley via the Waukivory Creek.

Gloucester is known for weather inversions whereby fog and mist rest in our valleys for long periods of time. If our neighbours light fires the smoke lies in our valley and surrounds our house. It is a fact that fine particulate coal dust pollution clings to the water molecules in the air. We are seriously affected by breathing in the surrounding air on weather inversion days. The wet particulate matter coats trees, vegetation, buildings, roofs, animals, grass, and people. It enters our rainwater tanks.

**How many times do I have to say no to mining in our rural town of Gloucester.  
I say no to the Rocky Hill Mine.**

**For our community** - our scenic capital is erased.

This affects us as residents. It's like we've been bombed and left with a huge hole in the ground, dying vegetation, dearth of birds and animals and contaminated soil, water and air. This affects our family members when they visit. Our beautiful green valley is severely scarred and ugly.

This affects our visitors and guests who enjoy our rural setting, our forests and rivers.

This affects me and my family. When I drive into town, I am confronted by mining trucks and equipment on the road. I smell the coal dust and the putrid sulphide emissions.

I am sad because some of my friends are leaving. They don't want to live in a mining town.

**For our community**, our clean country air is polluted with carcinogenic dust. Children and the elderly breathe in the putrid air. The particles compromise their lungs. Life spans reduce significantly. Everyday life without easy breath is depressing.

**For our community**, our regular visitors and campers and tourists and tourers stop coming to Gloucester. It is a fact that when AGL closed the coal seam gas project, the bus tours that had stopped coming, returned to visit Gloucester the same week.

**For me living next door to** Rocky Hill Mine, my life span is now shorter. Coal dust and diesel fumes in any form exacerbate chronic lung disease. Even the government set low levels of coal dust still affects my breathing and the long term health of my lungs.

**For me living next door to** Rocky Hill Mine, I am overwhelmed by industrial noise: the engine noise of the ten trucks every hour, the incessant grind of the rock crusher all day every day. The mine equipment noise invades all our natural rural sounds.

**For me living next door to** Rocky Hill Mine, my land value is reduced significantly. No one will buy my land when I want to retire. I cannot support myself when I am old. No one wants to live next to a coal mine.

**I ask you to reject the GRL proposal to start an open cut coal mine so close to Gloucester.**

I have not made a reportable political donation  
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