Submission from The Gloucester Knitting Nannas relating to the Rocky Hill Coal Project (Application No SSD-5156) and Stratford Coal Extension Project (Application No SSD-4966 MOD1)

The Gloucester Knitting Nannas are opposed to both of the above Applications.

As an organization whose declared aim is to protect the land, air and water for future generations we have many concerns relating to this proposed Coal Mine.

The health issues associated with mining are well documented, and the the very young are most at risk. At less than 5 kms from the hospital, schools and pre-schools, and 900 metres from a rural residential estate, this proposed mine is too close, and poses a major threat, particularly from dust pollution.

The proposed operating hours after several years of up to 10pm will cause problems for families with young children, who in addition to dust and air pollution, will be affected by noise, vibration and light pollution. Even if limitations are placed on them, it is well known how easy it is for mining companies to obtain variations to operating conditions.

Climate change must also be considered. We must transition to renewable energy as a matter of urgency if we are to avoid the most extreme climatic weather conditions caused by global warming. People, plants and animals simply cannot survive the predicted changes to the earth's environment. We are already seeing very early warning signs of what is to come with month after month toppling heat records and with the violence of the storms. One after another 'the worst/biggest storm ever seen in this region'. NO NEW COAL. We simply cannot continue to dig new coal mines. It is wrong and immoral to continue to do this with the overwhelming scientific proof of climate change.

We ask you not to approve these applications.

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