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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 – Application No SSD - 4966 MOD 1**

Dear Sir/Madam

The Rocky Hill coal mine is an atrocity and must be stopped. As a health professional I am strongly opposed against both the Rocky Hill Coal Project and the Stratford Mine Modification.

The detrimental health impacts of open-cut coal mining are well documented and simply cannot be ignored. GRL plans to generate over 1600 cubic metres of dust every year. Coal dust particles enter the lungs and bloodstream and lead to serious respiratory and cardiovascular compromise. Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Asthma, Bronchiectasis, Bronchitis and Emphysema can be triggered and/or exacerbated by such air pollution.

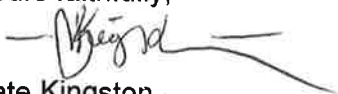
The health impacts are of most concern for the immune-compromised in the community: infants, children, the elderly and the sick. The Gloucester Hospital, Hillcrest Nursing Home, day-care centres and schools lie within the 5km health impact zone of the Rocky Hill Mine. I am horrified that the proposed mine is to be built within 900metres of 30 homes and families. It is criminal to sacrifice the health and wellbeing of our community for the economic gains of a non-sustainable coal mine.

Gloucester is famed as an oasis of clean air, fresh rivers and abundant natural beauty. This is the reason that locals and visitors alike are drawn to our region. The Rocky Hill Coal Project will jeopardise our valley. The visibility barriers, erected to hide the mine workings, are an eyesore. The steepness of the barriers will not allow vegetation to grow successfully and will be eroded by rain or create dust storms when windy. Coal mining will also have detrimental impacts on water quality and local food production.

Various groups in Gloucester, including Groundswell Gloucester, Environment Group, Forbesdale Resident Action Group, will be lodging submissions against this mine. I whole-heartedly support the content of these submissions.

The application for the Rocky Hill mine must be refused.

Yours faithfully,



Kate Kingston.

I have not made a reportable political donation