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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

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project and Stratford Mine modification.

The process of the NSW government and its priorities are wrong. The exploration licence should never have been granted in the first place. Mining should never be allowed so close to a town, residences, hospital and schools. The licence is in the catchment area of the Manning River. A mine in this area should never have been contemplated. The Manning River is the water source for 80 000 people. Our water sources cannot be jeopardised. However because this licence was granted, the people of the Gloucester valley have lived with the threat of a coal mine for the last 10 years while the company has determined it's project. This licence should never have been granted and should be revoked. No mining should happen so close to a settled town and in water catchment areas.

I would like to know why the NSW government gives priority to mining companies over the people they are meant to represent. Why is a mining company allowed to construct an open cut coal mine that will scar the scenery of a beautiful valley, damage the environment, destroy ecosystems, cause serious health impacts to the people residing in the valley, cause air pollution, noise pollution, contamination of soil and water sources? Mine sites are never rehabilitated to their former condition, this land will be unusable. Why are not people, their health and sanity more important? Why is the environment not seen as precious and deserving of protection? Water and land sustain life, why does the government consent to projects that will destroy life? Australia has already incurred enough devastation to land and water from mining operations; damage that is irreversible. Australian Governments and their departmental representatives need to exercise a duty of care to this great land. Protection of land and water must be a priority.

Coal mining and especially open cut mining spell damage. The Hunter Valley has been so damaged by mining. It would be irresponsible to wreck another beautiful valley. We can do better than this.

The Rocky Hill Coal Project should be rejected and the coal exploration licences 6523, 6524, and 6563 revoked.

Yours faithfully



I have not made a reportable political donation