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Date: 04/10/216

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

Rocky Hill Coal Project – Application No SSD-5156

Dear Sir/Madam

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project specifically for the **impact on health** – *It is too close* to residences and to **schools**

Impacts on Health

Health impacts from open-cut coalmines are well documented. With most of Gloucester township, including **the hospital and schools,** falling within the 5km health impact zone of the Rocky Hill mine, this places a large percentage of the population at risk. Those most affected by the health impacts are the very young, the elderly and the sick.

I am an early childcare worker and have seen the impact of coal pollution in the Upper Hunter – There is noticeable stress on children with respiratory illness – this is confirmed by CSIRO

"...regions with exposure to open-cut coal mining and power generation were shown to have higher rates of emergency department attendance for asthma and respiratory disease, and higher rates of hospital admission for asthma, respiratory conditions and cardiovascular disease (<u>http://www.publish.csiro.au/NB/pdf/NBv24n2</u>)

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