

LETTER OF OBJECTION TO THE MOUNT OWEN COMPLEX EXPANSION

We Angela and Bradley Johnson, residing owners of 'Amaroo' Lot 2/1064 Middle Falbrook Road, Middle Falbrook , 2330, NSW and our children Abbey and Nicholas, **OBJECT** to the **Mount Owen Complex Expansion, DA 14-1-2004** in its whole entirety.

We **OBJECT** to all mining and infrastructure associated with this expansion that encompasses the Mount Owen Open Cut, Ravensworth East and Glendell Mine Open Cut.

Our objections are based on the well documented and visible impacts that mining has on peoples physiological and mental being and the social and environmental degeneration of rural communities.

Middle Falbrook became our home December 2013 after a lengthy search to acquire property within the Singleton Council that provided us with a rural lifestyle close to town but without the impending impact of mining. Before we purchased we did our own investigations but were unsuccessful in acquiring any relevant information. Our decision to move forward on the purchase of the property was based on our findings and locals information that Mount Owen would never impact on them.

One of our main drives for this information was to be able to assess future air quality of Middle Falbrook. We have 3 asthmatics in our household, Angela, Abbey and Nicholas. Nicholas aged 10 is an **ACUTE ASTHMATIC** and has been medicated from the age of 6 months. We previously lived in a rural area where air quality became compromised from mining which saw him become very ill, miss months of school and an increase in medication. Nicholas takes a daily combination of non-steroid and steroid preventative medication. His daily steroid preventative medication is at its maximum dosage. If this is not able to control his asthma his Paediatrician, Dr David Rogers, Head of Children's Ward, Maitland Hospital has advised us that Nicholas own naturally occurring steroids would have to be altered to be able to increase his preventative steroid.

As parents the wellbeing of our children is paramount. Neither my husband nor myself wish to alter our sons own occurring hormones, especially as he approaches puberty just to be able to continue to live in a certain area. Since moving to Middle Falbrook in late 2013, his health improved dramatically to the point that he is able to competitively play town sports again. We now however are fully aware that with the impending change of air quality that this expansion would bring that this could all change for him.

Both our children attend Saint Catherine's Catholic College Singleton in years 9 and 5. They are very happy within this school environment which can be seen from their academic results. They are active members of the school community and play in the town's touch football and rugby league competitions.

We have great aspirations for our rural lifestyle at Middle Falbrook and the working of the land. The rich alluvial creek flats with its consistent availability of pristine water from Lake Saint Claire sees the area flourishing with natural wildlife balanced with low impact farming.

In this submission our areas of objections will be in 3 categories, Community, Health and Environmental.

Angela & Bradley Johnson
'Amaroo' Lot 2/1064 Middle Falbrook Rd
Middle Falbrook, 2330, NSW