

Confidentiality Requested: no

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

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Content:

Dear Sirs/ Madams,

I oppose the Rocky Hill Coal Project and Stratford Mine modification on the following grounds:

The mine is far too close to residential and other properties used by the resident of Gloucester. In general, the proximity being so close to town is unacceptable. Some but not all reasons why this is not acceptable are listed below :

- a) Health impacts on resident from noise, airborne particulate matter, incessant noise, increased traffic, degradation of the groundwater and river systems. These factor alone are ground NOT to allow these mines to be approved.
- b) This mine will seriously affect the local tourism industry. People simple don't go to coal mining towns for fun. Gloucester is well visited because of its natural beauty and tranquil setting of the village. These aspects will be destroyed with a coal mine so close to town.
- c) The well documented environment damage and risks to the environment are well documented. Such damage is from : noise, water contamination, air contamination, increases traffic flow, and new roads required. The knock on effect to the wildlife in the area including the river and tributaries that will be impacted will be significant.
- d) The lack of foresight and generally known ineffective `rehabilitation' of the land post mining. The land simply can NOT be restore anywhere near its original status and the cost is prohibitive and would dwarf any profits supposedly generated.
- e) The Coal industry is in decline and hence the overriding damage this mine will cause does not in any way match the positive aspects being local employment and some revenue for the State. The cost to the community and land I believe is far greater than the benefits anticipated.
- f) Further I believe the approval process for NSW Coal mining has been awash with corruption and insider information. The environmental laws have been softened to permit such disastrous project to proceed.

Please read a recent article in the ABC re: damage from the Tahmoor Colliery fro just one small example.: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2016-05-29/coal-mining-to-blame-for-poor-state-of-thirlmere-lakes/7455320>

This whole project is too damaging to the local and region area and should not proceed.