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BERRIMA RAIL PROJECT EIS SSD 15_7171

I strongly object to this proposal by Hume Coal in the Southern Highlands of NSW and I urge the government to reject this project for the following reasons.

Rail Line Impact

- The scope of the EIS is inadequate as the Hume Coal Project significantly impacts the Berrima branch line and the line from Moss Vale to Port Kembla known as the Unanderra line. Traffic from the Hume Coal mine will double the number of coal trains on the Unanderra line.

Level Crossings

- Level crossings on Suttor Road in Moss Vale, Sheepwash Road and the Illawarra Highway in Robinson are completely ignored in the EIS. These last two crossings experience high levels of commuter traffic in mornings, afternoons and tourist traffic at weekends. The Suttor Road crossing is used by local residents, industrial area traffic and is a school bus route. With the increase in rail traffic these crossings pose an increased unacceptable risk to public safety and rail staff.

Pedestrian Traffic

- Pedestrians including school children are seriously at risk in Moss Vale and Robertson. Robertson in particular has a number of crossings that are inadequate and poorly fenced.

Robertson Primary School

- The Unanderra rail line runs approximately 30 metres behind the 160 student Robertson Primary School and children play and spend time on the oval located beside the rail line. Coal dust and noise pose an unacceptable risk to children and staff.