



Jim Mauger
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RE: Hume Coal Project and Berrima Rail Project

To Department of Planning and Environment,

I support both the Hume Coal and Berrima Rail Projects.

I have been a community member of Southern Highlands my entire life and have seen this region flourish as it embraced industry, however over the past few years, jobs have begun to dwindle, businesses have closed and unemployment has risen.

I often see many younger residents of my shire leave the area for education or employment as this area has not done enough to support sufficient growth to sustain the younger generations, in terms of employment and opportunity.

What Hume Coal is offering is employment. It is offering a future for my community. Coal is a strong part of this region's heritage and there is no legitimate reason why it should not continue to be a part of our future.

Hume Coal has clearly demonstrated its commitment to the community and the environment throughout the development of its low impact mine design and accompanying environmental impact statement.

There are many advantages to the continuation of the coal mining industry in this region, such as:

- Access to high quality coals, suitable for both steel making and power generation
- Proximity to Port Kembla and the international market
- More work for the local mining supply businesses – securing their future.
- Support from the mine for local community groups and organisations.

I fully support both projects and believe that the Department should grant Hume Coal approval.

Yours Sincerely,

Jim Mauger