

Executive Director Resource Assessments and Business Systems
Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
SYDNEY NSW 2001

Re Hume Coal Project EIS 15_7172

I make this submission as President of the Berrima District Acclimatisation Society. Our fishing club is responsible for stocking local waters with native and other fish for sport fishermen. This not only creates, but also supports the Southern Highlands Tourist Industry. Our members, and others who fish local waters engage in a sustainable protocol to protect all wild species and their habitat. We are the people behind the scenes that end up with the problem of pollution created from industrial waste. Hume claims to **only** pump mine water containing toxic chemicals into Oldbury Creek, which will end up in the Wingercarabee River. We stock trout into creeks like this as nursery acclimatisation waters. Any chemical waste would pollute the waters, change the Ph, which is critical to fish survival. The effect would not only kill the fish but kill the tourist industry we have spent the last 20 years establishing, attracting sport fishermen to our area. The Southern Highlands is what could be termed a marginal zone, compared to the Snowy Mountains Region where there is less likleyhood of contaminants. This means we don't need much to push it over the edge into a non-sustainable region.

We stock fish under permit issued by the Department of Primary Industry and contribute financially through individual annual fishing licenses as well as purchasing fry and fingerling fish from hatcheries from broader regions of NSW.

We attract tourist fishermen and women to the Southern Highlands who not only enjoy recreational fishing, but stay at the many Hotels, motels and private guesthouses, including bed and breakfast. These tourists contribute to the social economic structure of the region that's taken many years to establish. They eat at our restaurants and cafes, drink at our public houses and service clubs. Hume's plan would have a serious negative impact upon the social structure of our region.

Tourism in its many different areas has taken years to establish and maintain and Hume's plan would put this all at risk with absolutely no benefit to the Southern Highlands. The suggested job creation wouldn't offer locals work and would negatively impact on local tourism employment.

Apart from anything else, coal is a worldwide contaminant when burnt to generate electricity and all nations are phasing out pollutant carbon emitting power generation. Hume's plan is a short-term money centered project and it's not even an Australian Company.

Come on decision makers, do what's right for Australia and the Southern Highlands and relieve the local community from the stress of the last six and a half years.

Mr S J Eavis
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