

Objection To Hume Coal Project

I wish to strongly object to the proposed Hume Coal mine in Sutton Forrest.

I am a Naturopath and have been for 20 years. I try and live the healthiest life style I can, drinking clean and uncontaminated water, and eating organic food. I spend as much time as possible in the country to get away from the pollution in Sydney. I enjoy the outdoors and fresh air immensely, being one of the reasons why we purchased a property in Berrima. I am horrified at the prospect of the environment being ruined by the proposed Hume Coal Mine.

I cannot believe that a significantly expanded coal mine would be allowed in the area. There will be coal dust in the air from the mine, and when the coal is loaded on to trains and transported through the area. It will not be possible to avoid this dust, especially with the new train line to be built. The train line is close to Berrima and the Wingecarribee River.

"Coal dust, especially fine coal dust, contributes to a range of diseases and health issues in humans and animals including respiratory illness, cardiovascular disease and lung cancer.

Fine particles penetrate deep into the lungs and are difficult for the body to expel. Over time these particles accumulate and do more damage. There is no safe level of coal dust.(World Health Organisation, Review of Evidence on Health Aspects of Air Pollution ,2013 ; Australian Government, Particulate Matter: Health Effects 2013)"

The water supply in Berrima is already of a low standard, and this can only get worse if the mine is built.

The mine is going to affect all residents and visitors to the area, and local farmers are going to be particularly affected. I am very concerned about the negative impact on the water table in the area, existing bores having to be re-drilled. We should be reducing our impact on the environment not increasing it.

Please for the sake of the environment and the future, do not allow the Hume Coal Mine to proceed.