Objection to the Hume Coal Project

As a land owner and resident of Sutton Forest I strongly oppose the Hume Coal Project in the Southern Highlands.

Their EIS document is nothing but a marketing document with many false and under researched claims.

We purchased Munro Park with the intention of becoming self sufficient and cut ourselves off the grid. We catch our own water we use solar for our power and we farm our own food. We have restored a piece of NSW history and taken custodianship of trees planted over a hundred years ago. I have restored and developed a 7 acre garden. We plan to have a b&b up and running in the future.

We have been informed by Hume Coal that our bores will be effected if this mine goes ahead. If our water quality and quantity ids effected it will impact our property significantly including the history held in the trees and the possibility of it becoming a tourist destination.

To even consider the risk of reinjecting the toxic chemicals from the mine waste back into the ground to potentially pollute groundwater in the aquifer is ludicrous. We have a fabulous agricultural community that offers diversity in farming and tourism. We need the benefits of CLEAN water in the aquifer to keep this community progressing.

Hume Coal wants to pump mine water into Oldbury Creek but there is no Water Treatment Plant in it's plans. The dumping of polluted water in any creek or river should be illegal. The fact that there is a chance it could also pollute the Sydney Water Catchment is a real problem.

The economic rational makes no sense. The highlands is attracting more and more tourists each year. It is in proximity to Sydney and people are discovering the delights of the environment in the Highlands. It is a major destination for weddings and B&B's. The community is rich in young families and only getting stronger. The NSW government gains little in royalties and Hume Coal doesn't have to pay for any of the water it will take..... what sense does this make...?

We purchased our property with the intention of passing it down to our children. What interest will it hold if there water is compromised and the property value decreases along with the community around them.

Friday, June 9, 2017

The dust causes me much anxiety - we moved from the city to be in a healthier environment. The air pollution from the dust will be a real issue for the health of us and our children.

I sincerely hope that the NSW Department of Planning and Environment can see the benefits of the Highlands WITHOUT a coal mine. That they can see that the Southern Highlands has a developing community that is expanding in tourism and agriculture and it would be severely compromised if Hume Coal was to go ahead.

I STRONGLY OBJECT on behalf of my self and my 13 yr old daughter.

Bridget Pirrie

Munro Park, Sutton Forest