

**RE: HUME COAL PROJECT – STRONG OBJECTION**

To: Executive Director Resource Assessments and Business Systems Planning Services

We are a family that moved into the Berrima area 6 months ago.

We have been welcomed by a close knit, warm and friendly community. We have been surprised at how easy our family have all transitioned into this gorgeous country town.

However, we are saddened by the dark cloud '*that is the HUME COAL Project*' that hangs over this lovely region of NSW. In the 6 months that we have resided and engaged with the local community, and we have been overwhelmed by the number of people that are opposed to the Coal Mine.

Berrima is a community where the overwhelming majority of residents look to the future with hopes of a **strong tourism economy** *founded on its historical beauty and farming heritage and rural environment*.

- Coal Mining **does nothing** to support the essence of what Berrima is.
- Coal Mining **does not** serve the interest of the local tourism industry in Berrima.
- Coal Mining **does nothing** to support the farming and rural community. It destroys waterways, future water resources and

The concerns are so numerous, but just to highlight a few of our most pressing fears:

**How can the interests of a foreign Coal Mine be more valued as more important than the health and well-being of local residents?** There will be impacts on air quality from coal dust, noise pollution due to trains, and water pollution.

**How can the interests of a foreign Coal Mine be regarded more highly than the protection of local waterways and our precious water resources?** There will be impacts on our bores, pollution risk due to surplus mining water, impacts to ground water, etc.

**How can the economic interests of a foreign Coal Mine be regarded more highly than the economic interests of our local community?** The local industries of tourism and agriculture are far more important than coal mining company profits. Coal mining industry always claims they will create local jobs but this is highly exaggerated at a time of mining industry automation that is replacing low skilled workers. Why destroy the local agriculture and tourism industry for the pure profits of a Coal Mine.

The message is very simple.

**The people of Berrima don't want HUME COAL, and they don't need HUME COAL.**

Regards,

A concerned Local Berrima Resident