

Att: Executive Director, Resource Assessments

Department of Planning and Environment

GPO Box 39

Sydney NSW 2001

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This is a submission to the Hume Project EIS

I object to the development of the Hume Coal Mine being developed in the Southern Highlands and recommend that it is rejected on the following basis.

On environmental grounds no new coalmines should be developed because alternative methods of producing renewable energy should take precedence. Australia should follow the path of major European countries in reducing pollution not adding to it.

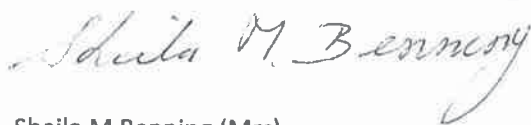
The standard of remediation of coalmines has been extremely poor, to permanently destroy productive farmland for a questionable amount of profit would be a reprehensible act.

To take the risk of reducing the water table in 60 or more local bores and possibly also destroying local agricultural businesses is unacceptable unethical business practice. The strong winds in this area will necessitate a large volume of water to be used to damp down coaldust and to calculate the total quantity of water the mine will use therefore can only be speculative.

The location of the mine will have a detrimental effect on local tourism resulting in job losses in accommodation, retail outlets, wineries restaurants and cafes.

It is highly unlikely that many local people will be employed on a permanent basis and it is more likely that local jobs will be lost due to the overall negative effect of the mine.

Any actual profit that Hume Coal may make cannot compensate for the damage it will do to this area.



Sheila M Benning (Mrs)