

SUBMISSION

HUME COAL PROJECT EIS SSD 15_7172

I STRONGLY OBJECT to the Posco/Hume Coal's proposal to open a new coal mine in our shire.

Why is *Planning NSW* even considering allowing a new mine to open? According to 99% of scientists, the burning of coal and other fossil fuels is the culprit regarding the dangerous rise in CO₂ in the atmosphere and resultant global climate change causing the increased regularity and size of catastrophic weather events - floods, bushfires, cyclones etc.

This is not a N.I.M.B.Y argument but rather a "Not in Anybody's Backyard – Globally – Ever" argument. History tells us that once the mine is approved, down the track the owners will apply for extensions into neighbouring areas leading to the continuation of this dirty extractive industry beyond the scope of this Hume Coal EIS.

Considering the paltry economic return to NSW coffers against the disruption it will cause to the local tourist economy, I believe our government would be better served supporting sustainable energy industries. With our "sunburnt country's" natural solar and wind resources, why are we allowing polluting coal mining enterprises to continue unabated when clean energy technologies could potentially become a more desirable win-win export industry. Good for the coffers AND good for the environment and health of shire residents.

Unlike coal extraction, renewable energy projects:

1. don't pollute groundwater systems within the Sydney Water Catchment area with reinjected coal washery slurries
2. don't require dusty materials to be transported through residential areas using further fossil fuels in the transportation process, both contributing further to air pollution to the area
3. do create an ongoing demand for employment from the manufacturing stage through to installation, unlike coal industries which are highly mechanised, requiring fewer and fewer workers whilst heading in a downward financial trajectory owing to the drop in global coal price
4. don't create stockpiles of dangerous particulate matter from toxic mine rejects creating potential health impacts for local residents
5. don't cause environmental impacts at both the mining stage as well as the burning stage in Korea, thus impacting locally and globally

This is an inter-generational equity issue. We do not have the right to compromise the future liveability of our planet for generations to come for the sake of a few million dollars in the state coffers.

I ask the Minister and *Planning NSW* to refuse approval of this Hume Coal project.

Jill Cockram
22nd June 2017