

27 June 2017

Mr G Duncan
Project Director
Hume Coal Project P/L
PO Box 1226
Moss Vale NSW 2577

Dear Mr Duncan,

I am in receipt of your letter dated 23 May 2017 regarding "Groundwater bore 'make good' consultation".

I note that this letter is a follow up to previous correspondence on this topic – as you are well aware I visited your offices at the time of receiving your initial correspondence, at which time you assured me that someone from Hume Coal would be in contact shortly (as that correspondence also indicated) and would telephone me to make a suitable time. I have heard nothing further from you until your letter of 23 May 2017.

The table attached to your most recent correspondence indicates that my bore will be drawn down up to 5.1 metres, for a period of 30 years, and will take over 45 years to recover. Other experts' opinion is that the impacts on water will be far greater than your letter indicates.

Even if I were to rely on the assumptions in your water modelling, the impacts on my water are significant, highly uncertain, and will last for decades – certainly longer than my expected remaining lifetime.

You say you are obligated to make good, and will be making good according to your obligations under the NSW Government's Aquifer Interference Policy (AIP) 2012 as the drawdown will be greater than 2 metres, being greater than 'minimal impact' as defined under the AIP.

Your attachment outlining the make good strategy is that you will deepen the bore/pump – my concern is that your assumptions may prove to be fundamentally flawed, and that the drawdown will in fact be dramatically greater than your estimates. How can you possibly make good over a period that may last for 45 years after the commencement of mining in 2021?

Other experts, for example in the independent assessment made by Pells & Pan (2017) of which I am aware, estimate that water drawdowns on properties in my vicinity could in fact be as great as 80 or 90 metres – a catastrophic impact.

The water bore is an important part of the value of my property and if the water is taken away this will have a very significant impact on my property value. Even the approval of the mine and the potential impact on many water bores in the district, including mine, could have a seriously detrimental impact on property values across all of Sutton Forest – and make any potential sale extremely difficult.

You need to provide information on what will happen if your water model is incorrect and a catastrophic failure of the aquifer occurs. Please provide specific details on exactly how you propose to make good and restore the water in that event – an event that other experts are predicting as far more likely than your water model indicates.

Please also provide the specifics of your groundwater modelling and the assumptions on which your model is based, and further to this, I require confirmation as to whether you have modelled all possible scenarios – including a catastrophic failure of the aquifer.

Without full disclosure of your groundwater modelling and the assumptions made therein, there is no basis on which to reasonably determine whether the figures in your model and subsequent correspondence are correct, and the full extent of the impact, or potential impact.

I, and many other landholders in the affected area, hold grave concerns that the impact will be irreparable and the damage to the groundwater – and therefore my bore – will be permanent.

As I expect that your groundwater model, associated data and assumptions would make up a very large file I am more than happy to collect a soft copy on a USB drive or similar at your earliest convenience.

Please provide your response to this letter and a copy of your groundwater model, associated data and assumptions no later than Monday 3rd July 2017.

Yours faithfully,



Samantha Bailey
42 Conflict Street
Sutton Forest NSW 2577
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Receipt acknowledged

Hand Delivered

Date received: 27/6/17

Received by: ALEX PATA



Groundwater Bore Overview

Bore	GW105744
Owner	Samantha Jane Bailey
Property Address	42 Conflict Street SUTTON FOREST NSW 2577
Easting	253955
Northing	6170109
Licenced Purpose	stock, domestic
Proposed mitigation	deepen pump

Bore Details

Initial Standing Water Level (m)	40.3
Screens From (m)	55.0
Screens To (m)	67.0
Total Depth (m)	67.0

Modelled Estimated Bore Impacts

Project drawdown - max (m)	5.1
Project time to max drawdown (years)	22.5
Project time to 2m drawdown (years)	15.1
Project time to 2m recovery (years)	45.1
Number of years drawdown > 2m (years)	30.0

