

BERRIMA RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION Inc

Post Office, Berrima NSW 2577 Tel: (02) 4877 1975

Email: secretary@berrimaresidentsassociation.org

Dr. Oh-Joon Kwon
CEO
POSCO Head Office
6262, Donghaean-Ro, Nam-Gu
Pohang
Gyeongsangbuk-Do. 790-785
Korea

4 December 2015

Dear Dr. Kwon,

I am writing to you on behalf of our village, Berrima, in the Southern Highlands of New South Wales, Australia. Our village is quite small, with only 350 people. However, it is a very significant heritage village, dating back to the first few years of European settlement.

The Berrima Residents Association was formed 32 years ago to protect our heritage village and its rural surrounds from inappropriate development. For this reason, a coal minehead, coal dump and polluted water storage just 3 kilometres from the village is of great concern to us.

We respectfully request that you cease work on your proposed coal mine in our beautiful rural landscape and natural habitat.

We are particularly worried about your plans to create a stockpile of coal almost one kilometer long and 6 storeys high. This is directly in the path of our prevailing winds. We are afraid that this wind will carry dangerous coal dust onto our village, including our primary school.

Your plans for water extraction and the large holding dams are also of great concern to us. Your intention to pump the rejects from the coal washing back into the void created by your mining will contaminate the purity of our ground water. This district has one of the best aquifers in Australia, which will become increasingly important with climate change.

The water table in the aquifer is likely to drop 150 metres, destroying valuable agricultural land. Your temporary gain will be at the expense of our long term loss.

Australia has many existing metallurgical coal mines which are being closed. Could you please consider purchasing one of these, for a lot less than it will cost to develop the new mine. An existing metallurgical coal mine will have a much higher rate of recovery of the coal (80% compared to the 35% with your proposed "pine feather technique").

Again, we respectfully ask you to stop this coal mine.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Cawood
(President, Berrima Residents Association)