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Attn: Executive Director, Resource Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
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This is a submission to the Hume Coal Project SSD 7172

I object to this project and recommend that it be rejected.

I have been a long time visitor to the Southern Highlands & have enjoyed its scenic qualities & its strong sense of community. It does not make good sense to compromise these attributes with the imposition of a coal project & the infrastructure that this involves.

I lived for many years in the Hunter Valley & saw how coal & coal development devastated the environment there. This was obvious in the air quality (red pall visible), the landscape & the health & social cohesion of the area.

It seems very odd to countenance a foreign-owned company, with a not very good track record, being allowed the possibility of setting up in the Southern Highlands. It would open the possibility of water contamination to bore aquifers & streams & of toxic waste contamination of air & ground. Property values in a mining area will also likely be affected.

New coal projects are not the way to a better future for the Southern Highlands or, indeed, elsewhere.

I ask the Government to reject this project

Signed, A. Shepherd

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