

Make a written submission opposing the Hume Coal Project. Return to LTG, 14/338 Pitt St, Sydney 2000 before 30 June, 2017.

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NORTH Sydney 2060 Receive campaign updates? ☐ Yes
Date: 9-06-17

Attn: Executive Director, Resource Assessments
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39 Sydney NSW 2001

This is a submission to the Hume Coal Project EIS.

I object to this project and believe it should be rejected.

- Risks to groundwater are too great: the project will seriously affect at least 93 bores owned by 71 landowners, with some drawn down by up to 80 metres.
- Hume Coal plans to reinject potentially toxic mine waste back into the mine. This risks pollution of groundwater in the aquifer above the mine.
- Research conducted in April 2017 by Galaxy Research found that support for the coal mine among Wingecarribee Shire residents is just 18%.
- Dangerous coal dust and diesel emissions caused by coal trains all pose a threat to human health, particularly the elderly and children.
- Hume Coal claims that it will only need to pump mine water into Oldbury Creek on rare occasions. It doesn't have a Water Treatment Plant in its plans so if they are wrong about the amount of water there is a serious risk of toxic mine waste water polluting the local river system which is part of the Sydney drinking water catchment.
- Hume Coal trains will add an extra 24 minutes of closures at rail level crossings every day. This creates unacceptable delays on emergency service response times.
- POSCO has an appalling international track record for corruption, environmental destruction and/or human rights abuse, which is well documented in countries including India, Uzbekistan, South Korea, Vietnam and West Papua.
- Over six long years, the uncertainty caused by the prospect of a coal mine in the district has caused anxiety, depression and ill-health in the community. Hume Coal's aggressive approach and lack of transparency exacerbated the situation. This will be made much worse if Hume Coal's mine is approved.
- A new report by The Australia Institute about the project, found that it could damage the economy of the Southern Highlands.
- It is time to develop policies for transition away from fossil fuels. No more coal, it pollutes the planet. We must not mine more coal if we are to meet our climate Paris commitments.

I want a clean and positive future for the Southern Highlands. I don't want destructive mining threatening local farmers, communities, water and ecosystems, therefore I urge the Government to reject this project and protect the Southern Highlands.

Signed, ABurrows