

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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Receive campaign updates? Yes ☐

Date: 21.6.2017

Have you made a reportable political donation in the last 2 years?

☒ No ☐ Yes - please attach a Political Disclosures Donation Statement

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

I have read the Department's Privacy Statement and agree to the Department using my submission in the ways it describes. I understand this includes full publication on the Department's website of my submission.

☒ Yes - I agree to publication on the NSW Planning website.

I object to the Hume Coal Project and the Berrima Rail Project (SSD 15\_7171) and believe both 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.
- The Southern Highlands ecosystem is a unique jewel in the Australian botanical landscape and risking its continuity with the unknown effects of these extensive intrusions into the water substrate is possibly a terrible tragedy which is best avoided.

In addition the Southern Highlands water has a wider significance as part of the Sydney Water catchment.

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,

*I assume Sydney Water is rejecting the mining proposal.*  
Ann Emmett