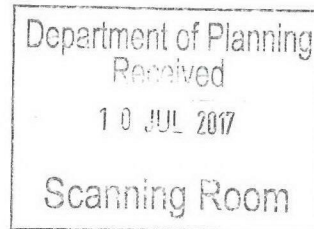


To: majorprojects.planning.nsw.gov.au
Subject: Hume Coal Project (SSD7171) and Associated Rail Project (SSD 7172)

Planning Services
Department of Planning and Environment
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001



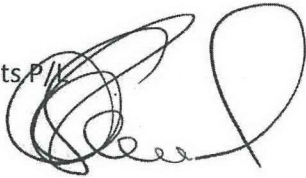
Fenugreek Investments P/L (hereinafter called " the Company ") the registered proprietor of land within the Hume Coal Project, namely lot 109 in Deposited Plan 751251, Lot 119 in Deposited Plan 751251, Lot 36 in Deposited Plan 751251, Lot 1 in Deposited Plan 213223, Lot 2 in Deposited Plan 213223, Lot 122 in Deposited Plan 751251, Lot 174 in Deposited Plan 751251, Lot 10 in Deposited Plan 262736, Lot 11 in Deposited Plan 262736, Lot 1 in Deposited Plan 124496 and Lot 23 in Deposited Plan 262737 and its Directors: Gabriel Michael Lorentz of Cherry Tree Hill Hume Highway Sutton Forrest, Diana Therese Lorentz of the same address, David Emery Lorentz of the same address and Olivia Katherine Siva of the same address, would like to make the following submissions relating to the above two projects:

1. When the Company purchased Cherry Tree Hill in 1980 and the adjoining land Ashhurst shortly thereafter it owned the mineral rights under those lands. These Mineral Rights were compulsorily acquired by the NSW Government (Premier Mr. Neville Wran). In valuing those Mineral Rights the NSW Government provided a report which stated that as the land will not be mined for at least 200 years those Mineral Rights had no value. How is it possible for the NSW government to grant coal exploration licences over the same lands and possibly allow mining over the same lands within a much shorter space of time. If this will happen will the NSW government recompense the Company (and other land holders in a similar situation) whose Mineral Rights were compulsorily acquired as mentioned above.
2. The Company has 5 houses on the subject property and 4 families currently live on the property. As there is no town water on the property these families rely on their everyday needs on water from 3 bores with water licences from the NSW Government on the property. Without such water the people living on the property cannot survive. The quality of the water needs to be good enough for drinking and cooking.
3. The Company runs pastoral operations on the property (some 500 head of cattle horses and some other animals) and these operations require water from the 3 bores mentioned above. Again the quality of the water needs to be good enough for drinking.
4. The Company also runs a vineyard and associated tourist activities such as a cellardoor with at least a 100 visitors each Saturday and Sunday and a lesser number during the week. The Company currently employs some 10 people directly in its vineyard and associated tourist activities, and many more indirectly. It intends to substantially increase its activities in the near future at the property, by building additional facilities, such as a restaurant, a winery and some tourist accommodation. This will result in the number of people working on the property increasing by about 3 fold. Again it is an essential requirement to have water, and the quality of the water needs to be good enough for drinking and winegrowing and cooking.
5. The Southern Highlands is known for its natural beauty and tranquillity, coal mining operations will destroy both of these qualities. Tourist operations on the property will be ruined, development will cease and the people employed on the property will be out of work. Also all the people indirectly employed for those operations will have no work also. The effect of coal mining for the Company will be calamitous.
6. Coal Mining in the Hunter Valley have affected wine production and wine quality, similar results are expected for the Southern Highlands.
7. The Company had no meetings with Hume Coal for bore consultation or otherwise, however recently it has received correspondence from Hume Coal relative to the bores on the property. We understand that the main bore on the property will be destroyed by mining operations. We reiterate that without water for drinking, cooking for irrigating and animal husbandry, the people on the property and the operations on the property cannot survive.
8. Coal mining may also effect the Warragamba Dam which is one of the main water supplies for Sydney.

9. For the reasons mentioned above and generally, the grant of the application will not be in the best interest of the people of NSW. The Company was told at the recent information meeting held with the officers of the Department of Planning and Environment that the royalty to be received by the NSW and Federal Governments will be in the vicinity of \$ 120 million. The loss of value of properties within the Southern Highlands, the loss of current businesses ruined and jobs lost will far exceed this amount, even taking into account the number of jobs that will be created by the project.

Yours Faithfully

Fenugreek Investments P/L



Gabriel Michael Lorentz
Olivia Katherine Siva



Diana Therese Lorentz



David Emery Lorentz