

### Key Points of objection

1. Residents who can no longer live in the area should be given the right to demand the mining industry buys their property so they can settle elsewhere. The remaining private residents of Camberwell should be eligible for acquisition rights

An extension of mine life to 2037 to produce an additional 35 million tonnes of coal is unsustainable. The Paris Agreement's long-term goal is to keep the increase in global average temperature to well below 2 °C above pre-industrial levels; and to limit the increase to 1.5 °C, since this would substantially reduce the risks and effects of climate change. Under the Paris Agreement, each country shall determine, plan, and regularly report on the contribution that it undertakes to make in order to mitigate global warming.

No final voids should be left in the landscape. Failure to properly regulate the rehabilitation of mine sites is creating a toxic legacy, the New South Wales Government has been warned.

The regulatory system in NSW is creating a massive toxic legacy that is going to be very difficult for future generations or future governments to rectify.

A recent report predicts the area of land in New South Wales affected by unfilled mining voids will eventually be larger than Sydney Harbour.

Detrimental water impacts are also highlighted in the report, with the abandoned mining pits forming saline lakes over time. The scale and the size of these voids will sterilise that land for any future use for other industries

2. It is imperative that the current high levels of air pollution regularly recorded at Camberwell are recognised and taken into account. The World Health Organisation lists particle pollution as a carcinogen. This community is bearing the cumulative impact of mining throughout the valley.

There is no threshold below which PM10 does not cause respiratory symptoms and diseases, and contribute to strokes and heart attacks.

In one example last November PM10 levels were recorded at 229.7 parts per million.

The National Environment Protection Measure states that levels above 100 are deemed hazardous.

The rolling average for Camberwell that day was 97.3, which is very poor.

The exceedances are in stark contrast to a 2011 Hunter New England Health review of Upper Hunter air quality that said five coarse particle exceedances a year would be acceptable.

About twenty families now live in and around Camberwell, compared to the 200-plus that lived there in the 1950s when the area boasted some of Hunter's richest dairy farming country.

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3. If the current project cannot afford to backfill all pits, it is economically unviable.

4. A transition plan away from coal mining impacts should be in place in the Hunter Region before 2030.

I implore the Commissioners to reject this application.

Robert McLaughlin

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