

Wayne Blake
1829 Denman Road
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

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David Mooney
Project Manager
The Department of planning & Infrastructure
GPO Box 39
Sydney NSW 2001

David.mooney@planning.nsw.gov.au

Mangoola Coal Modification 6 of Project Approval 06_0014

Thank you for the opportunity to make a submission about this mining proposal.

I OBJECT TO THIS EXPANSION PROPOSAL

Mining in the Hunter Valley is destroying our health, our water, our rivers, our creeks, our aquifers, our land, our air and our future. Our family is a very close and adjoining neighbour (Land owner) to the Xstrata Mangoola Mine site. We have over the last 2 years raised some concerns in regards to the current operations at the Xstrata Mangoola Mine listed below in point form.

Air pollution

We have raised our concerns of air pollution to Xstrata Mangoola mine at a number of meetings held with them. What has been done? **NOTHING** They are still polluting on a daily basis as per photos below taken from our adjoining property of the Mangoola Mine.



Accumulation of air pollution with other close mining operations. Photos below of air pollution at BHPB Mt Arthur mine on the other side of our property.



We have also asked Xstrata Mangoola Mine to supply and pay for bottle drinking water as we currently cannot and will not drink tank water after all the pollution from the mine ends up on our roof and then in our tanks. They have also refused to do this as well, so we are left to pay for drinking water as we do at the moment because of Xstrata Mangoola Mine pollution.

Noise Pollution

We have raised our concerns of noise pollution to Xstrata Mangoola mine at a number of meetings held with them. What has been done? **NOTHING** They are still polluting on a daily basis. The noise is at levels that it is waking my 3 small children, all less than 6 years and us on a regular basis. We are currently in the situation that we must have all windows and doors shut to try to reduce the noise level to a level that we can get to sleep. We have been instructed by one of Xstrata Mangoola reports that we cannot open our windows by more than 10 percent otherwise we will be affected by both noise and air pollution. We have requested that Xstrata Mangoola air condition our home if this is the extent that we have to go to get to sleep. They have refused to do this because it is too expensive. But we are expected to do these ourselves at our own expense. Considering we have been farming this property for the past **104 years** with no noise problem I think this is something that Xstrata Mangoola should be undertaking for us.

Visual Light Pollution

We have raised our concerns of Light pollution to Xstrata Mangoola mine at a number of meetings held with them. What has been done? **NOTHING** They are still polluting on a daily basis. The direct light from the mine infrastructure area shines straight into our home every night of the year lighting up our entire built in wardrobe mirrors. We have asked Xstrata Mangoola to assist in this problem, they will do nothing.

Discharge into Hunter River stream

Discharging polluted Mine water into the Hunter River should be a criminal act. I do not see who has the power to determine whether this can be done. Why should anyone have the authority to direct pollute the life blood of the Hunter farming, Industrial and Domestic community.

So in conclusion to the above mentioned items, it is apparent that Xstrata Mangoola Mine does not care what they are doing to the community, neighbours or the environment as outlined above with evidence. They have just sent us a report on what the community thinks of Mangoola Mine, It is a glowing report on the mine and what good it is doing for the community. Anyone with any sense would think that if you want to find out what the community thinks of the mine you would ask your closest members of the community, the neighbours. That's right I forgot they would not get the answer or response that they are wanting. So we go into town and ask some of the sporting community that they have just given a sum of money to build a new complex because they will get the answer that they are looking for. This is a bit like Cash for correct comment.

The bottom line to this Objection is that if they cannot operate the current mine next door to an existing family farming organization that has been operating for the past 104 years I cannot see how they could get approval to extend the mine that will make these serious problem's a lot worse for the surrounding neighbours.

I strongly object to this expansion

WA Blake

Wayne Blake
28th June 2013
Family Farming for over 104 years