

Confidentiality Requested: yes

Submitted by a Planner: no

Disclosable Political Donation: no

Name:

Email:

Address:

Burnt Yards, NSW
2792

Content:

We are local residents and we oppose the modifications because of increased dust impacts, increased use of water and extra vehicular traffic on local roads.

The modifications could have been foreseen but the impacts were not included in the original Cadia East approval process to make it more palatable for the local community. If the need for increased production was not seen at the time it is just one more example of the poor planning which characterises the CVO operations.

DUST

This company makes little effort at appropriate suppression of particle pollution now. Large volumes of dust pollution are generated off the tailings dams which receive little attention in the modification proposal. It is worth noting that this so-called dust is actually mining industry waste. It is breathed by the local community, ingested through their household tank water supplies and impacts pasture supplies and livestock feed. Any increase in particle pollution is not acceptable!

We called the mine's Community Hotline on 16th Dec., 2014 with a dust complaint. Neither the duty supervisor nor the Public Relations department could even tell us if there was a policy regarding the dumping of waste in high winds, or where that policy might be accessed by the public. This company only pays lip-service to the suppression of particle pollution. They have the means to solve the problem but little desire to do so. There is plenty of money and resources to throw at the problem but they choose not to. To them dust is the environment they work in. To local graziers and families we expect to live in clean air!! The modification proposal only states that they will "consider" mitigation. They demonstrate no solid commitment to effective remediation.

WATER

CVO has a poor track record of water management, having to plead with Orange residents for more water during the drought of several years ago. While there may be adequate water storage at present the forecast for the Spring and Summer to come is for significant dry periods and water shortages. CVO will take whatever their requirements are regardless of any shortages and drought conditions. The water stored and used by the mine is lost to the environment and has downstream effects even if it is taken at periods of high water flow. CVO has a history of not being able to "adjust mining operations" to match licence requirements. One has only to remember the original water debate when Orange was held to ransom because of the mine's desire to continue as usual despite severe water shortages. That situation resulted from poor planning on the mine's part.

TRAFFIC

The roads around us are poor and were only ever designed for local traffic by farmers and graziers. The increase in light traffic over the last few years has caused stress as those miners heading to work and returning home after long shifts treat the road as if it were a major highway mostly with scant regard for local residents and the poor road conditions. An 18.5% increase in Heavy vehicles is also significant and a cause for concern.

In conclusion, this proposal does not generate any extra jobs in the long term, but has severe impacts on air quality, water quality and lifestyle. Any proposal that includes an almost 20% increase in water usage is NOT a MINOR modification - it is yet another example of CVO's poor planning and complete disregard for their real impacts on the local community.

We are steadfastly opposed to it proceeding.