



*Winbirra*

ESTATE

Mr Matthew Sprott  
Planning Officer/Mining Projects  
Department of Planning and Infrastructure  
23-33 Bridge Street  
Sydney NSW 2000

31<sup>st</sup> May, 2013

Dear Sir,

RE: MT ARTHUR COAL MODIFICATION (09\_0062 MOD 1)

I am a landholder from 600 Dalswinton Road, Denman, and over the last 17 years we have invested considerable resources in the development of a vineyard, cattle and olive production. We are becoming increasingly concerned at the continued expansion of mines in our area.

The Mt Arthur expansion will continue to have impacts not only on our property but the viticultural, horse industry and agricultural functions within this valley. The horse industry plays a vital roll within the Hunter Valley and this has not been realised by Governments in the past. The number of employees and their community involvment across the valley is vital to our future. The further expansion of mines within close proximity to this industry threatens their future.

The continued lodgements of mining modifications does not reflect or show the many impacts that it has on our industries.

The continued creep of mining projects means that our communities cannot plan future expansion and investment with certainty. The expansion continues to draw closer to neighbouring land holders, our industries and our towns.

If we had known when the original developments were approved that future expansions would continue we would have been able to make different decisions in our developments.

Mining operators have a responsibility to the community and BHP needs to advise the community now, if approved, will this be the last modification.

We are starting to notice the change in the air quality and the impact of dust on our property. The noise and the massive lights weren't part of our environment 10 years ago, now they are a part of our everyday living.

Further expansion will continue to create these problems much more. Living on the Hunter River, one of our greatest concerns here is the potential impact of mining on the alluvial aquifer associated with the flood plane. BHPs reporting suggests at some stage that the mine will extend beyond the 150metre buffer zone from the Hunter River while providing no details, plausible solutions or management strategies.

The NSW Government and our local members have consistently told us future modifications should not impact agriculture, our rivers and our towns, surely this expansion of Mt Arthur goes against all of this.

I strongly urge you and your department of planning to consider the affect that this Mt Arthur expansion will have on our communities and reject such proposals.

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John Quayle', with a stylized flourish at the end.

John Quayle