

## SUBMISSION RELATING TO THE MINES PROPOSAL

This is a tailored personal submission in respect of the mines proposal and this has not previously been submitted.

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To whom it may concern I don't know why we have been asked to write these letters as what has been proposed for the mines will be going ahead no matter of my submission but I have taken the time out of my day to write this anyway.

My name is Jessica Storrier and I live in Menangle. We built our dream home 11 years ago on a 10 acre block. Our house is on top of a hill and overlooks the most amazing views. When we first brought the land the block was nothing but over grown grass, thorns, bushes and trees. We spent our time after school and on weekends cleaning up the property to make it into something we'd always dreamed of. The countless weekends spent pulling out trees that were riddled with spiders, snakes and all sorts of bugs we knew it'd be worth it in the end when we could sit back and look at it all.

This house isn't just a house that we can pack up and move from. The reason for this is because we built it as a family. This house was built by us in 6 months and ready to move into. We invested our lives into it as a family to have it completed. My sister was 7 years old, my brother was 11 years old and I was 9 years old. To be able to say that being at such a young age we were able to help build our house from the ground up makes our property have such great meaning to my family.

I get it sometimes life isn't fair but to whoever is reading this please let me ask you to put yourself in my shoes and give you a view on my life and just pretend you're me for the moment. Being a 9 year old child and spending your every spare minute of your time out at your new property. Some days were boiling hot and it was the last thing that any of me or my family wanted to do. We all knew it would be worth it in the end because we had envisioned on staying there for our entire lives. We chose this area as it has the most amazing views and we knew that we can sit on our back deck for countless hours and just admire the view as a family or with friends sometimes. Now when we go to sit onto our back deck and admire our amazing views they soon won't be as amazing as they are now. We won't be able to enjoy the endless views of greenery because we'll see a massive mines access site. I understand that this is something that needs to be put in for the mines to continue but I'm sure there is government land somewhere else close by that these works can be done on.

We moved into our house on the 18/05/2010 and yet today 1/08/2021 11 years later we still are continuing to build our house. Over the last week we have spent our time repainting the driveway and repainting our front fence. There is endless things that we are continuing to do to our house because as a family we are so proud to call it our home. In the past couple of years we have had our road fully done. This was done in hot mix and we had the curb done along with it to make the finish perfect. Two years ago we had our pool and landscaping around the house completed. This took a while for us to go through with as we had been told that the M9 was going to be going over our house so all of those plans went on hold for a while. To now see what our plans on paper turned out to be in real life is breathe taking and I couldn't be more proud of my parents for creating the most amazing dream house. We have an outside kitchen area that we use a lot even in winter and we eat dinner and admire our views as a family together. A couple of years ago we ripped up our old decking and replaced it all with hardy decking. This was very time consuming and draining, in the end it was worth it as the finish was perfect alongside the house. We have also done a beautiful sand stone feature wall this can be seen from the road and it makes the house look really grand. These are just some of the things we are constantly doing around our house because it is our forever home.

These are just a few things that we've done to our house in the past year. These are things that we've always dreamed of having. To have these completed and now to see that they're going to be building an eyesore across the road is absolutely heart breaking. To see all our hard work that we have done to our house over the years to be able to enjoy it and the views is just so sad. People like my neighbours and I have moved out to Menangle because we like the freedom. We like the county this is how we want to live. We've chosen this specific block of land because we seen its potential and I believe we have turned it into so much more than just a block of land and a house. We want nothing more than to be able to sit on our back deck or go for a swim in our pool or even just stare out the window and enjoy the beautiful views. We don't want to be looking out and seeing an eyesore and I'm sure if you were in this situation you would strongly agree.

My parents have worked their absolute asses off for us to be where we are today and for them to face the fear of it all being for nothing it breaks my heart. Some times people think that my parents have it easy but let me tell you something there is not a day in my parents lives that they haven't worked hard. The reason they have such a beautiful home is because they worked hard for it. Life wasn't always easy for them it threw curve balls at them all the time. My parents being the strong couple they are always came out on top together and continued to move forwarded. I would love for my parents and my family to come out on top again and beat this because if theres one thing in life that my parents deserve its their dream home. Watching my father break down at the dinner table because of this proposal is something that breaks my heart because there is nothing I can do to stop his or my mothers pain with this situation. I know my parents are strong people and we will be able to get through this if it does go ahead but just think for a moment if this situation was effecting you. You've worked hard your whole life and envisioned the most amazing house you can think of to bring your children up in. You go out and accomplish this dream in an area you have always dreamed of for it to then be crushed later on. Please put yourself in that situation and have a think of how you and your family would feel.

We have already been through all this shit with the M9 and now we have to go through it all again and consider if our house is worth staying in and putting up with this 24/7 works or if we just pack up and move to somewhere that we won't be as happy at as we are here. This is a big decision for my family and we have weighed up a lot when we do discus it all together. When we sit down as a family and all about how we were all feeling I think that it opens everyones eyes on how much significance the property means to us all. I know personally I have always dreamed of buying my parents home when they are ready to downsize. This house means everything to me and Ive always thought of how amazing it would be to bring my children up in it and have them pass the house down in generations and now knowing that this may not unfold how I've always dreamed of breaks my heart. This isn't just any house and 10 acres to me, this is my future house where it stays in my family and gets passed down through generations. This Mines proposal will effect my family and I greatly so I ask please consider avoiding the proposed area all together.





These two photos I have attached were just taken as I write my submission. These views are breathtaking and irreplaceable and I will happily admit this as I'm so proud of my parents for all their hard work. So if you wish to proceed with this project you will be ruining my family's life forever. You'll be ruining Nick Storrier, Allana Storrier, Layne Storrier, Jessica Storrier and Elizabeth Storrier life forever, please let that sink into your head for just a moment. If you can live with yourself doing this to a family who has done nothing but put blood sweat and tears into building their forever home then so be it but just know you'll have to live with this decision for the rest of your life and I personally will never forgive you for putting my family through this hardship. **Thankyou for reading my submission I hope you change the Mines proposal to somewhere else for the better. Jessica Storrier**