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2nd August, 2021

Objection to South 32's proposed Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project- 345 Menangle Road, Menangle

Application Name: Bulli Seam Operations Project
Application No: MP08_0150-Mod-3
Applicant: Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd
Location: 345 Menangle Road, Menangle (Lot 20A DP 4450)

I, Michael McGrath declare that I am a member of the Illawarra Coal Community Consultative Committee (IC-CCC), however this submission is purely in a personal capacity from both myself and my wife Virginia McGrath.

Dear Sir or Madam

We are writing to express our full support for both submissions submitted by:

- Nick & Allana Storrer, 30 Finns Road Menangle NSW 2568
- Martin & Colleen Scott, 3 Finns Road Menangle NSW 2568

objecting to South 32's proposed Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project proposed for 345 Menangle Road, Menangle

We have attached copies of both submissions.

Given the small window available to make submissions unfortunately we lack the necessary time and skills required to prepare our own detailed submission to the level displayed in the attached two submissions.

We fully support the notion presented by both submissions that the lack of time to make a submission was totally inadequate. We find it appalling that such a significant project is only afforded two weeks for locals to submit comment was totally inappropriate. Illawarra Coal are able to include enormous consultant reports which would have taken some months to prepare and then the local residents are only given a

paltry two weeks to respond with their submissions. The community has not been granted anywhere near enough time for a thorough review of this project in order to make a detailed submission and we are also certain that a number of local residents would not be aware that such a significant project was about to be forced on them with little or no notice.

The impact that such a development will have on the local community is devastating to say the least. As the Scott submission points out the increased traffic movements during the construction phase and the operational phase will greatly affect nearby residents particularly at shift changes at 11:00 PM in the evenings. The “quiet enjoyment” currently being experienced by surrounding semi-rural properties will greatly affect their current lifestyles.

This aspect alone is enough to deny consent approval for the project.

The predicted traffic flow through the Menangle Village particularly by Concrete Trucks during the construction phase operating 24/7 through the Village causing vibrations through homes and causing further damage to current infrastructure including already inadequate roads (e.g., Menangle Road). We are certain that the Residents of the Durham Green Retirement Village are not aware of the impact this construction and 24/7 operation is going to have on their lifestyles.

As detailed in the Storrier Submission:

“Total disrespect for local Council Zoning - The site for your potential mine access and additional facilities is zoned through Wollondilly Council Local Environmental Plan 2011(LEP) as RU2. Under the land use table mining is a prohibited land use in this zone. However, you go straight to State Planning in order to go over the Local Councils heads and do not even have to abide by the rules and regulations in place for our area. This is a total disregard for why the Council has that particular zoning in place. When we purchased our 10 acre piece of land we were aware of the zoning and respected the conditions that were given to us to adhere to as to comply with Councils rules and vision for the future of our area and surrounding rural landscape.”

Again it is a case that large corporations (Illawarra Coal) can totally disregard local government that generally supports the local residencies and bypass local Council Zoning regulations and proceed with application to the NSW State Government with such a project with little or no consultation with the local Wollondilly Council.

The Scott Submission details Property Values:

The South 32 proposal will substantially detract from the real value of our property. It's this freedom that you move to a property like ours and those of our neighbors. Who would want to live next to a mine operating 24/7? South 32 will probably say that it's not a mine, but mine access only. If we were looking at the area, it's a mine site!

The 25m tower for the lift access will be obtrusive, and there is no way in the medium term to hide it. This will highlight the site, again detracting from property values. We believe that we now have little chance of selling our property for its real value on today's market if the South 32 proposal is approved to proceed.

Again, property values are a further reason why surrounding local residents should not be ignored. Not to detract from the Scott's comment about their property values the Storrier property directly opposite and overlooking the proposed Mine site will be greatly affected if the project receives consent approval.

Both the Storrier & Scott submissions refer to need for a Dilapidation Report on surrounding properties as part of the consent approval. Given that proposal calls for blasting techniques be utilised through subterranean rock to sink the two shafts we also fully support the notion that the applicant should be providing a dilapidation report for all neighbouring properties as a condition of the consent approval.

Conclusion

The Scott submission concludes that:

- *The reports supporting the proposed application are inconsistent and inaccurate. It is virtually impossible to make an informed decision when the information provided conflicts in the same report?*

The Storrier Submissions concludes that:

- *This mine site is neither requested nor required on a RU2 zoned parcel of land and our first preference is for the current proposal to be scrapped! State Environmental Planning Policy or not there will be significant detrimental impact to our agricultural and heritage abundant lands. Given the arguments against this proposal it is clear that the project should not proceed at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle.*
- *We only have one chance to get this right or we risk losing our unique story by threatening our environment and prime agricultural lands. Now is the time to save our Menangle - It's too important to lose and once it's gone it's gone!*

In conclusion we fully support the notions put forward by the Storrier and Scott Submissions and we fully support the further notion based on both reports that the proposed Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle be rejected and not provided with any consent approval to proceed.

Yours faithfully,

Michael & Virginia McGrath

SUBMISSION RELATING TO SOUTH 32 ILLAWARRA METALLURGICAL COAL APPIN MINE VENTILATION AND ACCESS PROJECT

Name: Nick & Allana Storrier

Address: 30 Finns Road MENANGLE NSW 2568

Phone number: 0413 141173

Email address: craftsmansh@bigpond.com

Application Name: Bulli Seam Operations Project

Application No: MP08_0150-Mod-3

Applicant: Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd

Location: 345 Menangle Road, Menangle (Lot 20A DP 4450)

This is a tailored personal submission in respect of the Construction and operation of mine ventilation and access infrastructure including two ventilation shafts, upcast ventilation fans and ancillary infrastructure. This is an objection for the project and it is our view that it should not be able to proceed.

Introduction

We moved to the Macarthur area 26 years ago and had been working towards our goal of owning land at Menangle and building our forever home. In 2009 we secured the land and started building our home and it has been a labour of love ever since.

We built our home with dual occupancy so that if our parents needed care in their old age they could live with us. Our family home is also our display home and office for our building company 'Craftsman Homes Southern Highlands Pty Ltd'. Our home was constructed in a manner to enable potential clients to view materials. This is not just a home, it's a display home, and it is also our office and has a basement area for storage of equipment & construction materials. It's where we conduct meetings with clients, managers and subcontractors.

We chose this location so that our business would not interfere with neighbours. It is located geographically in the centre of our franchise area for Sydney/Southern Highlands. We would be enormously financially disadvantaged if our place of business was jeopardised. Our home was designed in a manner to conduct a business that has no impact on our neighbours.

Our concerns about the proposed Mine site are deeply personal and broader as it would not only destroy our family home that our 3 children, parents, extended family and friends physically helped us build is now potentially going to be adversely affected by noise, air and water pollution. Our ten acres of land is our little piece of paradise will now be located beside a huge mine access site and have direct views to the whole project which will have devastating affects to the rural character that defines our community and the cultural landscape will be lost forever.

The stress, anxiety and heartache this has caused us and our family in the past 9 months since being notified of the proposal has been enormous. The proximity of ventilation shaft 7 to our family home is approximately 400 metres.

Current visual of our home at 30 Finns Road, Menangle (View Point 7) showing uninterrupted rural setting with potential mine site in background on right hand side of Menangle Road.



Photomontage of (View Point 7) the rear view from our home at 30 Finns Road, Menangle showing the detrimental impact of potential mine site at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle as a prominent feature of the natural rural landscape.



Sensitive Receiver location (R3) is our home at 30 Finns Road, Menangle showing the close proximity to potential mine site at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle and the potential for noise quality to be jeopardised during both construction and operational phases.



Objections

Lack of time to make a submission - We feel that the amount of time given to make comment on this huge project was totally inappropriate. Given the amount of hours that were spent by numerous consultants to prepare the reports on behalf of Illawarra Coal in relation to the 2 weeks that you have given to make a submission against this huge project that will impact our lives and the lives of the extended community is absolutely appalling. Also the timing of the notification period whilst we are currently in a pandemic and the whole of Greater Sydney, Blue Mountains & Wollongong is currently undergoing a lock down is such a disadvantage. Not only are we juggling the stress of health, family and work restrictions somehow you think it is appropriate to add this to the stress levels that are already beyond breaking point. This community consultation has simply been a tick the box exercise that is in no way can reflect an appropriate amount of engagement with the community at this particular time. When Transport for NSW notified us of the potential OSO in March of 2018 we were given 68 days to read reports, attend community meetings, talk to the Council and our neighbours prior to putting in our submission. The community has not been granted anywhere near enough time for a thorough review of this project in order to make a detailed submission.

Total disrespect for local Council Zoning - The site for your potential mine access and additional facilities is zoned through Wollondilly Council Local Environmental Plan 2011(LEP) as RU2. Under the land use table mining is a prohibited land use in this zone. However, you go straight to State Planning in order to go over the Local Councils heads and do not even have to abide by the rules and regulations in place for our area. This is a total disregard for why the Council has that particular zoning in place. When we purchased our 10 acre piece of land we were aware of the zoning and respected the conditions that were given to us to adhere to as to comply with Councils rules and vision for the future of our area and surrounding rural landscape.

Home Value & Quality of Life - The affect the proposed project will have on the value of my home and the loss of quality of home life will be enormous. We believe that we now have little to no chance of selling our property for what its worth with this application in progress. An independent valuation should have been obtained and provided by the applicant, prior to this application, so any decrease in cost can be compensated. Why should Illawarra Coal's improved efficiencies and raised profits, come at the expense of my neighbors and myself in quality of life, property value and lifestyle?

Construction & Operational Noise - We are concerned about the constant noise throughout the life of the project. All reports have been based on modelling of possible Decibel readings at certain times of the day and night. Can we have a guarantee that actual noise monitors will be set up and real time data can be available to both the nearby residents and Illawarra Coal so we can all be aware and keep records on what the actual readings are at any given time? Any exceedance in decibels of the noise monitoring need to be addressed immediately. A previous project that took place on that site in late 2020 by Illawarra Coal did not consider the surrounding residents when generators ran through the night and interrupted many peoples sleep patterns.

Acoustic Sheds - It is understood that the construction of the shafts would occur 24 hours per day, seven days per week. In the construction phase Acoustic Sheds over Ventilation Shaft 7 and Ventilation Shaft 8 have been proposed to mitigate noise emissions. Our fear is that we understand this will be a very expensive outlay to Illawarra Coal and that they may not proceed with them. We feel that the acoustic sheds must be a condition of the consent if approval is granted due to the huge difference that they will make in noise reduction.

Air Quality - We are concerned that our air quality will be reduced by the close proximity of the mine site. We are not experts in the field of particulate matter, however would request that real time air quality monitors are put in place at our residence and other nearby residents to show the particulate matter emissions in the air at any given time and that data is made available to ourselves and Illawarra Coal for continuous review and discussions. Exceedances of the daily PM10 and PM2.5 criterion need to be addressed immediately. Construction phase will see dust generation at what wind speed will work stop?

Headframe & winder (VS7) – The headframe tower is noted to be approximately 25 metres in height, also given its location on the potential site the current level will be filled approximately 4 metres. This will mean that the visual impact on our landscape will be huge and it will significantly impact the surrounding landscape. Given that no other building within this area is over 2 storey's high this site will become a dominant feature of the landscape which is zoned RU2. Is there any possibility that this shaft can be reduced in height to be more sensitive on our environment? We appreciate neutral colours being used for materials to match the local environment however we totally refute the statement that this has been designed in order to minimise visual impact. Are there any other design options that could be used if this project is to be approved?

High Visual Impact – The project is dominant and overall negative feature to which other elements become subordinate. The project significantly and adversely affects the scenic quality of the scenery and its valued landscape characteristics. The built form and bulk will not contrast well with shapes and contours in the surrounding rural landscape. The project will become a significant component of the view from the back of our home.

Historic Heritage – The Site is part of the regional cultural landscape associated with early 19th Century settlement and the development of large rural estates such as South Camden. It has remained mostly unchanged from first European settlement and farming of the area, with little to no development. This application for the mine access site is in no way staying true to the historic heritage of our area.

Tank Water - we are concerned that our drinking water that comes off our roof will be contaminated by the construction and operation phase of the mine site. All properties within close proximity to the mine site should be allocated a suitable professional who can test the water in our rainwater tanks after each rainfall and provide a report as to whether any contaminants are polluting our drinking water. If so then alternate water supplies will need to be organised at no cost to any of the residents.

Sydney Water - Part of the mine application states that Illawarra Coal are in discussions with Sydney Water and plan to have a potable water supply to their site for the operational phase. We also suggest that all residents in close proximity to the mine site be given access to Sydney Water mains and that both the original connection and ongoing usage be paid for by Illawarra Coal Holdings PL.

Dilapidation reports – As controlled blasts to break rock will be carried out for the main shaft excavation dilapidation reports on houses & pools should be prepared prior to commencement of any work to site be carried out and paid for by Illawarra Coal for us and all residents within close proximity.

Blasting – We are concerned about the controlled blasting that will occur for the shafts and the vibration and noise levels that will be reached. Can we have a guarantee that actual noise monitors will be set up and real time data can be available to both the nearby residents and Illawarra Coal so we can all be aware and keep records on what the actual readings are at any given time? Any exceedance in decibels of the noise monitoring need to be addressed immediately.

Sleep Disturbance – We are very concerned that the construction and operational phases of the project will cause sleep disturbance. What alternatives if any are available to use instead of the audible alarm that sounds prior to the operation of the winder/cage. We feel that as noted in the report 105dBA is not acceptable with residents in such close proximity of the project site to be continuously woken and sleep disturbance play a huge part on mental health. A previous project that took place on that site in late 2020 by Illawarra Coal did not consider the surrounding residents when generators ran continuously through the night and interrupted many peoples sleep patterns.

Rehabilitation of Site – We understand that the site if approved as a suitable project site will be decommissioned in 2041. Strict conditions should be noted confirming the timeframe of the mine access site and once a final date is issued there should be no further extensions to that date. It is expected that 5 years after the closure of the site the property will be returned to its current rural state.

No Coal Handling Facilities – The application states that the project does not propose coal handling facilities (coal stockpiles, coal haulage movements etc at the site). A condition of the consent if approved should be that this site can never ever be amended to include coal handling facilities.

Traffic – After residing for over 10 years on the Corner of Finns Road and Menangle Road, our opinion is that Menangle Road is not suitable for use by heavy vehicles. The roads in the area are of substandard quality and many sections are full of potholes and patches. The increase in heavy traffic would make these roads even worse. We are concerned by the large increase of traffic that the mine access site will require both in construction phase and operational phase. An additional 564 two-way light vehicle trips per day is enormous. Traffic impacts should be minimised and occur outside of current peak period travel on Menangle Road. Road Traffic noise should be continuously monitored and any noise level exceedances should be reported.

Lighting – As the mine site is 24 hours a day 7 days per week all lighting will need to consider visual amenity, glare, non-obtrusive lighting on neighbouring properties and minimise light spill. A previous project that took place on that site in late 2020 by Illawarra Coal did not consider the surrounding residents or commuters and the choice of lighting was offensive and distracting for drivers.

Conclusion

This mine site is neither requested nor required on a RU2 zoned parcel of land and our first preference is for the current proposal to be scrapped! State Environmental Planning Policy or not there will be significant detrimental impact to our agricultural and heritage abundant lands. Given the arguments against this proposal it is clear that the project should not proceed at 345 Menangle Road, Menangle.

We only have one chance to get this right or we risk losing our unique story by threatening our environment and prime agricultural lands. Now is the time to save our Menangle - It's too important to lose and once it's gone it's gone!

Martin and Colleen Scott
3 Finns Rd
Menangle NSW 2568
2nd August 2021

Objection to South 32's proposed Appin Mine Ventilation and Access Project- 345 Menangle Road, Menangle

Application Name: Bulli Seam Operations Project

Application No: MP08_0150-Mod-3

Applicant: Illawarra Coal Holdings Pty Ltd

Location: 345 Menangle Road, Menangle (Lot 20A DP 4450)

Dear Sir/Madam

The submission period is so small that it would seem the government and South 32 do not want people to be able to submit detailed objections to the project. South 32 has used multiple businesses to prepare their submission over many months, and we, the local directly affected residents, are only given two weeks to prepare our objections after reading various reports that total nearly 1000 pages.

There are several reasons for our objection to the project that will be detailed in this document. Our main concerns are not only the inconsistencies in the data provided, but the effect the project will have on the value of our home and the loss of quality of home life. These inconsistencies are the main concerns, detailing the affect to our property and lifestyle as well as value and salability of our property. The report prepared by Niche clearly states in the executive summary that the project is to "improve production efficiency" (page iii). It goes on to state other benefits, but obviously, this is the main reason for the project, at the cost to not only us but also my neighbors.

The main issues with the project, which we will go into detail are:

1. Noise
2. Pollution
3. Traffic
4. Infrastructure
5. Lifestyle
6. Property value

1.0 Noise

1.1 Traffic

In the report by Niche, in item 1.4.5.4, it states that the roads are "suitable for use by heavy vehicles." We would disagree with this in that the roads in the area are of substandard quality and many sections are full of potholes and patches. The increase in heavy traffic would make these roads even worse. The bends at Douglas Park are not suitable for articulated vehicles and could potentially be the location for a serious head on crash. The Traffic Assessment Report on page 8 states that "there is a change

in alignment with sharp curves” north on Camden Street (its Camden Road). How can these roads be suitable for such an increase in cars and heavy vehicles? This section of road already experiences a high level of vehicle accidents and time was not available for us to research details of the accident rate.

1.1.1 Vehicle noise at change of shift

During the week there is a shift change at around 11pm. Thus, there will be 90 cars arriving between 9pm and 10pm, and 90 cars leaving after the shift change, as per table 2.3 of the Traffic Assessment Report and under paragraph 4.2 of the same report. The current traffic at this time of the night on Menangle Road is less than 6 per hour. The report details increase in traffic as a small percentage, for the total cars per day but fails to mention the intense increase in traffic at this time of the night. This is the same for weekend shifts, but at around 6am. As most vehicles will leave and head south, the traffic noise in the quiet times of the day will cause sleep disturbances of the neighbors as the cars must accelerate up the road incline from the site and around the bend at the Finns Road intersection.

1.1.2 After hours HV traffic e.g. concrete trucks.

The Traffic Assessment Report in paragraph 2.2.6, that the concrete trucks will deliver concrete at all hours, including night time, but as Finns Road has a 15T load limit, they will travel through the quiet and peaceful built up area of the Menangle township. The people surrounding this intersection will feel the effect of noise that they have never thought possible from these trucks as they accelerate out of the intersection at Station Street. There is also antidotal evidence from complaints generated by the residents of Durham Green Retirement Village complaining about the truck movements travelling along Menangle Road past their residences. Given the number of trucks that currently have no regard for the 15t limit, we also believe that the concrete trucks will tend to use Finns Road as it's the easier and faster option. More noise for residences located along Finns Road and at the corner of Menangle Road including our residence as the trucks negotiate the turn to and from Menangle Road.

1.2 Construction work and timeline.

The Traffic Assessment Report states in the executive summary that vent shaft construction will commence in July 2022 and completed by June 2024. Table 2.1 of the same report has the shaft construction finishing by Dec 2024, an extra 6 months of construction noise and traffic. The summary also states that the infrastructure will take an additional 6-12 months starting July 2024, but table 2.1 has it starting July 2024 (no difference), but it won't be completed till 2026, some 12-18 months later. Again, further discrepancies with their data. Some of this is supported by the data in table 22 of the Noise and Vibration Assessment, and the same table is in conflict. What are we to believe?

1.2.1 Blasting Noise

The Noise and Vibration Assessment paragraph 6.2.1.2 states “, blast events occurring at night, could lead to sleep disturbance impacts”. 6.2.1.3 goes on to say that ground

vibrations have the potential on both human comfort and structural integrity. Paragraph 6.2.4 states that the project is seeking approval for blasting to occur at any time, and there are no current guidelines or policies in Australia for this out of hours blasting. Thus, it seems that they will 'give it a go' and see what happens. Paragraph 6.3 states that "A preliminary blasting impact assessment for the Project, prepared by Prism Mining Pty Ltd, indicated that the blast design for the Project may use MIC in the range of 3-6 kilograms. For the purposes of this assessment, an MIC of 3.0 kilograms is assumed." Table 32 of the report has the predicted overpressure exceeding the criterion. What would the numbers be if they use 6kg of MIC? Why didn't they give us "worst case scenario" as they often like to inform us that this is what they base their numbers on. These numbers will have many of the surrounding residences being affected by the blasting. Given that the blasting can occur at any time, and given that the South 32 proposal is for sinking 2 shafts, this could occur every 12-16 hours (24-36hrs per shaft) as detailed in 6.4.1.1. How is this good for our health? What structural damage will this do to our homes?

1.2.2 Construction noise

There will be a lot of construction noise and added to this will be the temporary generators as detailed in 3.7.7.2 of the Niche report. These would produce a constant hum as we experienced when South 32 were operating the test drill rig, on top of all the other noise.

The data in Table 24 is very concerning. Every item/task on the list has a dBA exceeding 100, and many exceeding 110. That means that nearly all the time during construction there will be a piece of equipment creating noise in excess of 100dBA. The issue with the dBA table that they fail to tell you is that the scale is not linear, it's a logarithmic scale. "Zero decibels (0 dB) is the quietest sound audible to a healthy human ear. From there, every increase of 3 dB represents a doubling of sound intensity, or acoustic power." (www.noisehelp.com).

Thus when you look at this table there is a lot of very loud machinery. The addition of these noises is not just simply adding them together, but they do increase the intensity. As a result, it will be a very noisy workplace. Bulk earthworks will be at 127dBA, shaft sinking at 125dBA. As a consequence we will be subject to very loud noises for a long time.

1.3 Operational Noise

In item 3.5.2 of the Niche report, it states that there could be a change to the volume of air or direction.

'Depending on ventilation requirements and location of the longwall operations over the life of the Project, the existing ventilation shafts and access points may also switch from upcast to downcast ventilation shafts or be upgraded to higher air flow rates. Approval of upgrades/changes to existing ventilation shafts described above is being sought as part of the Project.'

There is no mention of this in any of the noise studies as to how this may affect the surrounding properties. What are they trying to hide?

The noise generated by the fans is provided by IMC. What is the data behind this number? What is the fan speed/air volume for this number as the fans are controlled

by VSD's and thus can have their speed varied? What controls are in place to ensure this number is not exceeded? What maintenance programs are in place to ensure the fans don't become 'noisy' due to mechanical issues. Are there ongoing noise assessments to see if they comply?

2.0 Pollution

2.1 Air borne particles

The Air Quality Assessment has a lot of data throughout the report that we as uneducated residents (paragraph 2.3.1.3 of Niche Report stating we have a lower-than-average bachelor of education) must try and decipher. The residents of Menangle, other than the township, rely on water gathered from our rooftops for our water supply. The data might show acceptable limits of dust, but it only takes one event to pollute our drinking water. We might not even know that it has happened, especially if this occurs at night.

2.2 Sewage/Grey water

In the report by Niche 1.4.5.4, regarding proximity to infrastructure, it does not mention sewerage. In Sydney Water's Growth Servicing Plan 2020-2025, accurate as of 10th March 2021, the area of the site is at the strategic planning stage. This means that "there is low certainty around delivery timeframes". The Menangle Village development will install a self-funded pumping station as Sydney Water won't have the facilities in place for the development. If a housing development of about 100 houses cannot get sewerage, how will the mine site?

This will mean many more truck for many years removing wastewater.

The sewage plant has no detail regarding odour control. Is it an open top tank system that would allow odours to be released? Why does the report not include details on this?

2.3 Spoil

The report has up to 5% of spoil to be removed from site. This amounts to 2341m³ that needs to be taken off-site. Many truckloads and dust being deposited on the landscape as they drive down the road, possibly polluting surrounding homes drinking water.

3.0 Traffic

As most of the mine workers who will enter the mine at the proposed Menangle Road access shaft currently enter the mine through Appin West off Douglas Park Drive, they will most likely travel to the Menangle Road site via Douglas Park Gorge. This road is not suitable for 180 cars per shift change as it's a one lane road predominantly used for local traffic, which floods often.

3.1 Construction Traffic

During construction, traffic will be up to 76 workers and 44 heavy vehicles as detailed in the Traffic Assessment Report paragraph 2.2.4. This paragraph also stated that

concrete trucks will also operate 24/7 during the vent shaft construction.

3.2 Operational Traffic

Traffic Assessment Report paragraph 2.2.4 states that there will be 12 heavy vehicles per day. These trucks will predominantly head south (90%) as reported in 2.2.6.

Table 2.3 states that the number of personnel on site for shift 1 is 128, shift 2 is 90 totaling 218. Given that paragraph 2.2.6 states there is 212 car spaces, where will the other 6 or more people park. What about visitors or additional personnel required for a specific task etc.?

In paragraph 4.6, it states that shift 1 will have 116 cars and shift 2 will have 82 cars.

Why are the numbers different in the same report? Which is correct? If they cannot get this correct, how can we trust that the other details are correct?

This paragraph also states that there is parking for trucks and a loading area. We have been unable to locate this on any map of the site.

In the report's conclusion, it states that there are sufficient car spaces, which we cannot believe given that the data is not correct and that it is "not expected to have any negative impacts on other road users".

What about the extra noise to surrounding residents at times when the road is normally very quiet?

4.0 Infrastructure

4.1 Telecommunication

The report by Niche states that the site is "in close proximity to telecommunications". (1.4.5.4). We and surrounding residences including Menangle Village residences have difficulty obtaining reliable NBN coverage. We are regularly reminded of this through our membership of the local Menangle RFS and often field complaints of the poor quality and often lack of internet service.

4.2 Water

In the report by Niche 1.4.5.4, regarding proximity to infrastructure. In Sydney Water's Growth Servicing Plan 2020-2025, the area of the site is at the strategic planning stage. This means that "there is low certainty around delivery timeframes". There is town water available in Menangle, but what about getting it to the proposed Menangle Road site. More trucks for many years? The Niche report in paragraph 3.7.8 under the heading of Water Supply, concedes that Sydney water has no spare capacity in the Menangle system to supply the site. 100 people per shift having a shower before leaving amounts to many thousands of litres of water needed per day, resulting in many truckloads of water. The report states they would require on average 25kL per day.

4.3 Wastewater

This would have to be transported off site for the first few years until the site infrastructure was completed and the wastewater treatment plant operational. More

trucks on the road.

5.0 Lifestyle

Our family moved to this area for the lifestyle it provided. Peace and quiet, not a mine access site. Over the next 5 years while the site is being constructed, we will have constant noise, blasting and traffic. This will have a negative effect on our quality of life. Elderly parents of our family also live in an attached dwelling on our property which faces directly to the mine site. They moved here with us not only for the support that we provide, but also for the lifestyle. We are sure they won't appreciate the additional noise generated by the extra traffic and general site noise.

Our three adult sons still live at home with us as they too enjoy the life that living on our semi-rural property provides, sitting outside on late afternoons around a fire without a sound except for the occasional passing car. Under the South 32 proposal, many cars and trucks and the constant 100+dB(A) from the mine site will continue to invade our quiet enjoyment our family currently enjoys. This will all be shattered if the South 32 proposal is approved unconditionally.

6.0 Property Value

Over the past 8 years, our family have spent most of their spare time improving the property, for our personal enjoyment. We have improved the yards and gardens for our enjoyment, to sit around and relax in. This won't be as enjoyable under the proposal. The South 32 proposal will substantially detract from the real value of our property. It's this freedom that you move to a property like ours and those of our neighbors. Who would want to live next to a mine operating 24/7? South 32 will probably say that it's not a mine, but mine access only. If we were looking at the area, it's a mine site!

The 25m tower for the lift access will be obtrusive, and there is no way in the medium term to hide it. This will highlight the site, again detracting from property values.

We believe that we now have little chance of selling our property for its real value on today's market if the South 32 proposal is approved to proceed.

An independent valuation should be obtained and provided by the applicant, prior to this application being approved, so that any decrease in property value can be compensated by the applicant.

6.1 Dilapidation Report

Given that South 32's proposal calls for blasting techniques to be utilised through subterranean rock to sink the two shafts we believe that the applicant should be providing a dilapidation report for all neighbouring properties as a condition of the consent approval. Our family home is currently crack free, both internal and external. Our inground pool and surrounding concrete paving are also free of any damage. We also have retaining walls that may be subject to damage if the proposed blasting techniques are adopted.

7.0 Conclusion

The reports supporting the proposed application are inconsistent and inaccurate. It is virtually impossible to make an informed decision when the information provided conflicts in the same report? How are we to believe all the numbers that are just done by modelling? Will these estimates be independently verified if the application gains approval?

What protections & or action will be put in place to protect the neighboring properties if these estimates are exceeded?

Why did the applicant choose to model the blasting explosion on minimum charge? It would seem on the surface that the applicant didn't like the numbers at maximum charge.

There is no water or sewerage available, and it is not a priority for Sydney Water in the 5-year plan. We locals are lucky to get the internet, yet the applicant say there is fibre optic along the road.

The reports are constructed to baffle the average person, using averaging, percentage change, pages and pages of graphs that unless explained are meaningless. They don't detail specific noise events like traffic at shift change at 11pm at night.

The report prepared by Niche clearly states in the executive summary that the project is to "improve production efficiency" (page iii). Why should their improved efficiencies and thus profit, come at the expense of our family and that of surrounding adjoining properties with their quality of life, property value and lifestyle.

Based on what we have provided above, this project must not gain consent approval at the detriment of the Menangle community.

It is our understanding that the South 32's mining activities can still progress quite safely at its current locations although they would no doubt argue that it will be more costly to extract their black gold.

Yours faithfully

Martin and Colleen Scott.