

Julie Favell
1466 Castlereagh Highway
BLACKMANS FLAT NSW 2790

Department of Planning Industry & Environment,
GPO Box 39,
SYDNEY. NSW. 2001.

Dear Sir/Madam,

Re: Submission - McPhillamys Gold Project Application Number SSD-505:
EPBC ID Number 2019/8421

I object and equally above the above project.

Yes, we need economic growth but not at the cost of a community. Every community makes up millions of threads that creates this state and nation, without communities you have broken the very thread of Australia's rural life. A sustainable inclusive economic project that will enhance growth with no loss of water, no contamination of water, lands and air for community is paramount.

The core of this project is about water. No water, then no community. We see across this great state the devastation creeping its way through hundreds of communities with drought. Yes, we have had droughts before, so why is that we still have so many communities with no water. Lack of long-term planning in the past and will be for the future unless we have sustainable infrastructure, that will support its community with sustainable economic projects.

The overarching impediment is what it does to each individual and community as a whole, in short fear of the unknown i.e.

- What if the dam bursts its banks into the waterways, contamination for how many years, loss property value due to contamination, loss of quality agricultural land that may be contaminated, loss of good quality drinking water into the future. This is not acceptable for this community; it is an extreme lethal high risk. i.e example Clarence Colliery, Lithgow coal spills into the Wollangambe River Lithgow. This story does not address the loss of habitat but what about the animals that rely on that river for survival. <https://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-07-14/clarence-colliery-fined-one-million-for-blue-mountains-spill/8709834>
- Then there are people themselves who border on this mine living with a change from rural aspect to an industrial zone, blasting, noise, dust, vibration. It can take a toll on the health mentally; it breaks down a community. The fear strengthens if it has not already happened that people who border on the proposed mine give up and sell to company. Equally aligning is the cost of health-related issues, through no fault of their own.

- Community in general lose their volunteer base due to going to work for the mine. Reduced numbers that knitted together their community, local RFS, sporting clubs etc. No doubt it will be responded with addressing the advantages. That the mine will aide many local orgs with financial assistance.
- 24/7 monitoring needs to be real time. I do not accept averaging out reports for dust and noise, for example - you have 40 50 knot wind for a day or two but when you see a report it is averaged out over the week/month. People have to live there on those days if dust is an issue.
- All mines should treat their discharge if any before it leaves pit in other words water discharge is to meet the same as the current quality/quantity example (NorBE).
- NSW EPA, to complete ongoing assessments, for air, noise, dust and (water quality/quantity) over a period prior to decision of this proposal.
- A project should not rely on outsourcing water from other communities, it should stand alone with the immediate resources. The proposal suggests to pipe water from the residual supply after Mt Piper Power Station requirements, with mine discharge water from the Springvale Water Transfer pipeline. This water should remain in our waterways with immediate legislation that does not allow any water that may cause harmful effects on that community/environment and to be treated at the pit top to have a neutral and beneficial effect in our waterways. What is known that given the history of underground mining in Lithgow has no data to show what the natural surface flow in our waterways was prior to mining, no data to show what the flow will be once all discharge water is piped to Mt Piper Power Station. No data to show how long it will take for the natural flow if any due to cracking of surface from underground mining will take. Yes, there is a proposal to pipe Clarence Mine discharge into the Cocks River at LDP9 but there will be a gap before this will be operational. Also, above LDP9 is of grave concern with the loss of surface water and once the current mine discharge water from Angus Place Colliery will also be transferred to this pipeline. Currently Angus Place has a desalination plant at the pit top to treat the discharge to meet the natural background levels. This should be a legislated standard practice to maintain our waterways, for community and environment.

There is no guarantee with contamination that will unfold with this project with mine discharge due to either human or weather incidents. Either one of those scenarios will create devastation for its community, its water and land.

Future planning to ensure is to have an economic sustainable plan that is not reliant on or reduced need for water, reduce contamination of land and emissions. To care for our country and maintain into the future.

Create industry that will support with sustainable projects with less need of water. Renewable projects have the least impact and sustainable, no water, no loss of habitat with clearing or land or historic abandoned mine sites, no emissions. However, it would be remiss not to include the primary resources to produce renewable products. This is the time to ensure any mining will have legislation in place before determination of any future mining

projects that will have better legislation than the one we have now with historic/current mining of raw materials.

Thank you for your time and would like to be notified.

Yours sincerely

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