

I am a nearby resident of the proposed McPhilliamys gold mine, Kings Plains NSW. I currently live approximately 2 km in a direct line from the proposed open cut mine, which has been called sturgeon hill in Regis documents. I have lived at this house for the past 12 years with my wife and 3 children aged 9, 8, and 6. My wife and I are both 7 day a week shift workers. We moved to Kings Plains as we wished for a quieter area due to shift working along with acreage. Our property is 10 acres in total in which we are reliant on tank water with no bore facility.

During the proposal period and consultation period we have had no face to face direct contact with any members / employees of Regis Resources and they have never attended our residence. We have been present at community meetings and participated in the social impact assessment with Hanson Bailey. On Friday 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 we had our first contact with an employee from Regis which only came about when they spoke to a friend of ours who mentioned our names as being affected by the mine. On this phone call they admitted that they had not come and seen us and couldn't explain this oversight. At the time of this submission we are still waiting on any Regis representative to attend our premises.

I believe it is crucial for a representative to attend our house to witness firsthand how we will be affected by the proposed mine. We have clear view from our kitchen and front yard into the mine and will be able to see the infrastructure and waste rock area with no barriers to prevent this.

There are several reasons in which I object to the proposal of the mine and these are due to the noise, lighting and dust causing environmental changes to my lifestyle and overall wellbeing as well as concerns for the damage to my property, my lifestyle including the water supply to Carcoar dam and possible contamination.



The arrows indicate the uninterrupted view from my house. The arrow on the left indicates the exact location of the pit and the arrow on the right is the view of the waste rock placement.

### **LIGHTING**

As you can see from the photographs of our view from the mine, the lighting used for the mine itself will be visible from our house. At the present time, there is no visible lights during the evening making a peaceful environment. I believe they haven't considered how the lighting will affect our house and premises especially during the warm summer evenings when we sleep with our windows open and curtains up which is the benefits of living in a rural setting. This is going to change our lifestyle in this respect.

I am further concerned about the lights of the carpark and overall lighting of the mine. It will no doubt have to be well lit for the safety of the employees but will this be at a cost for the local neighbours, I believe it will be. How can this possibly be negated when our view to the mine is uninterrupted and no amount of trees planted will be able to obscure our view.



## **NOISE**

I believe that the study does not appreciate the noise levels from our residence at this particular moment in time. It is not about going over the decibel levels, at the present time at our residence we have minimal noise throughout the day and less during the night. We may have a larger amount of traffic highway noise on occasion but this is for a short period of time. The noise levels they discussing in associated with the mine will be constant and over a 24 hour 7 day a week period. This is outrageous to say this will not affect our overall wellbeing and comfort. The noise levels associated with a mine and the constant noise due to trucks, rocks crushing, reversing noise, etc will affect the environment in which I live and will affect my wellbeing and mental health. As stated prior, my husband and I are both currently a 7 day shift workers which at the moment due to the rural environment sleeping during the day period is achieved. I believe that due to the mine, mill noise, truck noise, reversing, rocks smashing when unloading etc this will affect me immensely causing sleep disturbance which will end up causing me to become fatigued.

It is unreasonable to suggest that double glazing which is not currently on our house and closing the doors and using the air conditioning will suffice as a way to negate the factor of noise. This affects our everyday living from the children playing outside to a family bbq / gatherings.

You can simply not say that even if the mine doesn't go over the decibel level it won't affect nearby residence. This will have a long last affect over a number of years which will be exacerbated by the construction of the southern bund.

There does not appear to be any studies showing the noise levels at the present time from our house and comparing this to the noise which will be present during the

construction of the mine, mining and southern bund. It could not be reasonable on the residents to suggest that during the construction of both these things at the same time that this is sustainable and will not affect us.

As you can see there are no boundaries which will decrease the level of noise to our house. Whilst the southern bund is being build this will have greater impact on the noise levels. This southern bund will not protect my house from the noise or lights associated with the mine. There has been no thought by Regis resources to negate this in relation to our property.

## **DUST**

As stated previously the only source of water on our property is via rain water and our tank. I am concerned with the amount of dust which will reach our property only 2 kilometres away from the pit. I am concerned that this dust will go onto my roof top and therefore lead into my water tank.

Is there going to be testing carried out on the quality of our tank water before, during and after this mine? How can this be negated by Regis Resources? I believe this can't be negated and I have serious concerns with the health and safety of myself, husband and my young children.

## **CARCOAR DAM**

My family and I are lucky enough to live in a 10 minutes' drive to beautiful Carcoar Dam where we enjoy recreational activities including fishing, water skiing and tubing. I am concerned that the water will be stopped to Carcoar Dam making the dam unsustainable for these activities.

I am concerned that there is potential for leakage from the tailings dam into the river system which feeds Carcoar Dam. This will have enormous effects on our lifestyle and Carcoar Dam will be unable to be used due to contamination. This is a serious problem not only for myself but for every resident of Blayney and surrounds who uses the facilities of Carcoar Dam.

## **DAMAGE TO HOUSE**

I am concerned that there will be an increase in damage to my house due to the daily blasting from the proposed mine. I have had no correspondence from any representative to indicate that they will be doing any studies of the damage to our house from the start of the mining process for the duration of the mine.

I believe that Regis Resources has not successfully completed a thorough assessment of the effects this mine will cause on the nearby residents including my family and I. As stated before they have not attended our house and have no knowledge of our views which will impact our daily lives.

Going on the information presented at public meeting and information supplied by Regis I understand that the following is what is proposed. To pipe contaminated water from a disused coal mine at Lithgow that is not fit for use anywhere, mix it with high saline content waste water from a power station pump this contaminated water across at least three major river system to Kings Plains. Once the water arrives at Kings Plains it will be mixed with cyanide and then stored in a huge tailings dam. A huge hole will be dug and a huge rock mountain created. All residents will be affected in some way. Minimal jobs will be created in the area. Water flow to the Belubula River will be reduced. Once the gold has been removed the hole will stay and so will the mountain. The tailings dam will remain as well. The hole will fill with ground water and rainfall all of which once in the hole is contaminated. So the residents of the area are being asked by Regis to create a massive toxic waste dump at the headwaters of a river system and have this toxic dump here FOREVER. The benefits associated with this proposal are far OUTWEIGHED BY THE MASSIVE RISKS ASSOCIATED WITH IT, the contamination of rivers and ground water sources is unacceptable.

I believe that Regis Resources can not sufficiently negate the concerns of myself and fellow residents to an acceptable standard for the comfort of our everyday living, health and lifestyle. I believe that if Regis is unable to negate these successfully then consideration should be given for the acquisition of my house under the Voluntary Land Acquisition and Mitigation Policy.