

David Mooney - Objection to Drayton South Coal Project

From: Nerida Wales <nerida_wales@hotmail.com>
To: <david.mooney@planning.nsw.gov.au>
Date: 12/21/2012 10:07 PM
Subject: Objection to Drayton South Coal Project

Nerida Wales-Brown
771 Dorset Rd
Muswellbrook NSW 2333
Australia

Dear David,

Re: Objection to Drayton South Coal Project
Application Number: 11_0062

I am writing as a concerned local, currently living abroad, to object to the Drayton South open coal mine project. The region has already been devastated beyond reason with the destruction of topographic landmarks, which not only constitutes ruining the visual amenity of the land, but damages the future capacity of that land for use. The disruption of the soil ruins existing ecosystems, enabling weed species to run rampant which affect farms across the entire region, and this is only where the toxins escaping from mine blasts haven't ruined the soil completely. Aside from the continued and increased air and land pollution, the destruction of a landscape that is rich to my view of cultural heritage, this country is my legacy to my children and grandchildren and it is being destroyed.

My family have evidence of living in this area since the late 1800's, our farm has been part of the family for over four generations. In trying to describe to you the activities I undertake in this area I could stop at simply farming and recreation but my relationship with the land goes deeper than that, that landscape forms an integral part of my identity and the community that is being ripped apart by mining leases and contract workers had been the social fabric I relied on to cope with living in a rural area – we are increasingly losing the community bonds that made this place my home. Cracks in historical buildings are just the tip of the iceberg on what damage is being done, as if making it less appealing to tourists was necessary after making it so unliveable.

I think it is well known in the area the damage that these mines are doing to our health, mentally and physically and the strain it puts on existing resources. I am genuinely concerned that to allow continued growth of these operations in our region will ultimately harm our productivity and capacity as an area. These developments affect my heritage and my family and I sincerely hope that you are doing everything within your power to stop this.

I respectfully ask that you register my objection to this proposal and seriously consider my objections when assessing the appropriateness of the Drayton South open cut coal Proposal.

Yours sincerely,

Nerida Wales-Brown