

Good morning everyone,

Thank you for this opportunity to speak to you all today. I do not speak for Peabody, I speak as a man who wants to continue to live and work in the area to support his family in years to come.

I currently reside with my wife & 3 children, on Araluen road Wollar; and I have lived there for the past 3.5 years. It is lifestyle choice for us to reside in Wollar, not driven by anything else. If I thought that living in Wollar exposed my family to any health risks I would not be standing here talking to you all today.

In these years there has never been any negative impact from noise or dust to myself or my family. I do hear the trains, and in saying this I do understand there are 3 mines feeding this line. We do not experience any real travel delays from the trains. Between the upgrade of Ulan Road under the current approval and the upgrade of Ulan-Wollar road under the WEP, I consider these infrastructure benefits of greater improvement to the current situation.

My children attend St Matts in Mudgee, and travel by school bus to and from Mudgee daily. My wife works two days a week in Mudgee. My kids play in numerous sporting teams in Mudgee. My employment at Wilpinjong allows for my family to be part of the Wollar and Mudgee communities.

I am an active member of the Wollar RFS brigade, alongside many other community members from all walks of life. I am also a member of the Wollar Progress Association but unfortunately the main purpose of this group is about stopping the mine. But I am about helping out in the community where I can; as there is still a community here to progress; regardless of their employment or who the property owner is... let's not forget that!

In my employment at the mine, I see first-hand the economic benefits Wilpinjong brings to Mudgee and the greater region via engagement of goods and services from local businesses. So the approval of this Wilpinjong Extension Project will help ensure the futures for these businesses and families in the region out to 2033.

In my opinion from what I see, hear and read, Peabody takes its Approval conditions very seriously; we run a 24/7 manned control room to monitor and mitigate the impacts of mining and live compliance. Wilpinjong is a good place to work, and that is because of the good people who work there.

I support this expansion proposal. The benefits outweigh the impacts. It is not a new mine, It is an expansion of an existing one, I strongly believe it's a case of "The right mine, in the right place...Thank you.

Paul Grimes

