



Commissioners,

I strongly object to the Wilpinjong expansion project. If it is allowed to go ahead it is the end for the village of Wollar, which was founded in 1885. Once the mine is 1-2 kms from Wollar no-one will be able to call Wollar home. The shop will shut, this means nowhere for the mail to go, as a mail-box at the beginning of Mogo Rd is not a safe option as I live 18kms North-East of the village and 15kms from the beginning of Mogo Rd. The school will close. Looks like we will also lose the clinic sister, who (before the mine bought out everyone) came out to Wollar once a month and now comes out every second month, a very important person to have visit Wollar due to ageing population that is left. Our fire brigade has been incorporated with Cooks Gap rural fire service. Cooks Gap is about 1hrs drive from my property. We are still unsure if the Cooks Gap brigade will be capable of dealing with the very large area that they have taken on. We had a meeting on the 7th September with Fire control mudgee, National Parks and Cooks Gap brigade personnel. We were told that in the event of a fire closing Mogo Rd. (one way in same way out), this includes any campers visiting the 2 National Parks campgrounds, we would be by ourselves until the road is open again. This would have happened if Wollar still had its own brigade which we don't because the mine has bought out most of the people who were active in the Wollar brigade. The mine has rented some

of their houses in Wollar to their workers but most of the workers are FIFO\*. They are active in the community only on paper.

I object to Wilpinjong mine expansion going ahead and leaving a lot of private landholders in the larger area of Wollar with nothing left. The mine has given the last 3 private landholders in the Wollar village acquisition rights, but has not offered voluntary acquisition rights to all the other landholders of Mogo Rd and O'Briens Crossing areas. We moved here 30+ years ago because Wollar was a thriving village with a very strong community, even 10 years ago it was a thriving village with a very strong community. Now we have lost everything that is important to us. We live 18kms from Wollar and 70kms from Mudgee. We are so much more isolated once there is nothing left of Wollar. Now the mine owns it all, most of the houses that had people living in them are now either partly torn down or falling down. There is now petty crime in the village which was not there before. If we of Mogo Rd and O'Briens Crossing are not offered Voluntary Acquisition rights maybe some form of compensation could be offered for the loss of community.

I object to Wilpinjong expansion because they will think they have the government in their pocket and it wouldn't surprise me if they continue to mine for coal as they own all the land around Wollar and once they own the village who is there to stop them, only the governments.

While governments allow the burning of coal for electricity we will always have coal mines.

I live in an area that is peaceful with the occasional water pump or chainsaw going in the background. now it is mine noise particularly in the winter months. and therefore I object to the expansion of the Wilpinjong project going ahead because I do not think the noise has been assessed properly. Where the mine is now we hear it especially in winter and especially at night. With the expansion into Slate Gully they will be closer then they are now. So the noise will be louder and more incessant than it is now, even though we are told it will still be below the recommended noise level.

Why is it that we are only given 5 minutes in front of a panel of 3 people to defend ourselves from the destruction of our home and community by a coal mine and a person who has committed a crime and pled not guilty is given a trial and a lawyer to defend himself.

I strongly object to the Pit8 Slate Gully project going ahead.

Thank You

email

phone