

MY NAME IS GEOFF WRIGHT AND I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO THANK THE COMMISSIONERS FOR THEIR TIME TODAY AND ALLOWING ME TO SPEAK. MY WIFE AND I HAVE A FORTY-ACRE FARM AND SOME LEASE COUNTRY IN THE MIDDLE OF BELANGLO STATE FOREST. OUR FARM IS APPROXIMATELY 7 KILOMETRES SOUTH WEST OF THE PROPOSED HUME COAL MINE SITE. I, LIKE ALL MY NEIGHBOURS IN THE AREA AM OPPOSED TO THE HUME COAL AND BERRIMA RAIL PROJECTS.

ON OUR FARM WE RUN A SMALL NUMBER OF CATTLE, WE HAVE POULTRY, A LARGE VEGETABLE GARDEN, A MEDIUM SIZE ORCHARD AND THUS FAR HAVE PLANTED OVER 300 TREES. WE ALSO HAVE A COMMITMENT TO THE RURAL FIRE SERVICE FOR A STATIC 30,000 LITRE WATER SUPPLY INCASE OF BUSH FIRE. BECAUSE OF OUR LOCATION WE ARE BLESSED WITH AN EXTRAORDINARY VARIETY OF WILDLIFE, OCCASIONALLY WE SIGHT A KOALA.

FOR WATER, WE RELY ON RAINWATER TANKS, 3 SMALL DAMS, AND OUR BEAUTIFUL FRESH, HIGH QUALITY BORE WATER. WITHOUT ACCESS TO THE UNDERGROUND WATER, PARTICULARLY DURING THE NOW INCREASINGLY LONGER PERIODS OF HOTTER AND DRYER WEATHER, ALL ANIMAL AND PLANT LIFE WOULD SUFFER. IF THE AQUIFER WERE TO BE DAMAGED IN ANY WAY, AND WE WERE NO LONGER ABLE TO RELY ON BORE WATER AS A BACK UP FOR OUR TANKS AND DAMS, OUR FARM WOULD NO LONGER BE VIABLE.

INTERESTINGLY LAST YEAR I RECEIVED A LETTER FROM HUME COAL DATED 25TH JUNE AND SIGNED BY GREIG DUNCAN, A COPY OF WHICH I HAVE ATTACHED TO MY SUBMISSION. THE 2ND PARAGRAPH STATED "I UNDERSTAND THAT ANY IMPACT ON YOUR PROPERTY CAN BE WORRYING, HOWEVER PLEASE BE ASSURED THAT HUME COAL WILL MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO ENSURE ANY IMPACT ON YOUR WATER BORE IS TEMPORARY AND YOU WILL NOT FOR ANY PERIOD OF TIME, BE LEFT WITHOUT ACCESS TO WATER FOR ALL YOUR NEEDS" HOW CAN HUME COAL BACK UP THIS STATEMENT. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE NUMBER OF BORES ESTIMATED TO BE ADVERSELY EFFECTED, ACCORDING TO HUME COAL, HAS RECENTLY BEEN UPDATED FROM 91 TO 118. WHERE WOULD HUME COAL OBTAIN THE WATER AND HOW WOULD THEY PROVIDE THE INFRASTRUCTURE TO DELIVER IT.

OUR BORE AND THOSE OF OUR NEIGHBOURS, WILL BE THE FIRST AFFECTED SHOULD THE MINE PROCEED. THE LOSS OF BORE WATER, FOR WHATEVER REASON I BELIEVE WOULD HEAVILY IMPACT AGRIBUSINESS'S ACROSS THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS.

MY NEIGHBOUR SUSAN WOODCOCK, OWNER OF THE THOROUGHbred STUD "MEREDITH PARK" TOLD ME SHE WOULD HAVE TO LET 2 OF HER FULL TIME EMPLOYEES GO IF SHE LOST HER BORE WATER. DAVID LORENTZ, OWNER OF CHERRY TREE WINERY SAID HIS BUSINESS COULD NOT SURVIVE WITHOUT BEING ABLE TO RELY ON THE HIGH QUALITY WATER FROM THEIR BORE. 8 FULLTIME EMPLOYEES WOULD LOSE THEIR JOBS HE SAID, IF HE NO LONGER HAD ACCESS TO THE AQUIFER ESPECIALLY DURING DRY PERIODS. THESE JOB LOSS SCENARIOS WOULD BE REPEATED ACROSS THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS.

I BELIEVE ITS ESSENTIAL OUR PRECIOUS UNDERGROUND WATER IS PROTECTED FROM ALL OF THE POSSIBLE NEGATIVE IMPACTS THIS PROPOSED COAL MINE COULD HAVE.

I'M ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT THE NEGITIVE IMPACTS THIS COAL MINE COULD HAVE ON THE PRISTINE TOURIST LOCALITIES OF THE SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS. THE REGION, PARTICULARLY THE HISTORIC TOWN OF BERRIMA ATTRACTS MANY THOUSANDS OF TOURISTS. THEY COME FOR THE FRESH LOCAL PRODUCE, THE RESTAURANTS AND WINERIES, EARLY COLONIAL HISTORY AND ARCHITECTURE, THE SPECTACULAR SCENERY, SEASONAL CHANGE AND ITS CLOSE PROXIMITY AND EASY ACCESS FROM SYDNEY. A HUGE STACK OF MINED COAL, DUST AND GRIME RESIDUE FROM THE MINED COAL, NOISE AND LIGHT POLUTION 24 HOURS A DAY, 7 DAYS A WEEK, SIZABLE INCREASES IN ROAD AND RAIL TRAFFIC WILL ALL HAVE A NEGATIVE IMPACT, NOT ONLY ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE HEALTH OF LOCAL RESIDENTS BUT ALSO A DETRIMENTAL EFFECT ON TOURISM WHICH WILL FINANCIALLY DISADVANTAGE THE WHOLE REGION. THIS WOULD LEAD TO INCREASES IN UNEMPLOYMENT AND HEALTH CARE COSTS.

MY GREASTEST CONCERN WITH THIS PROPOSED COAL MINE IS THE CONTRIBUTION IT WILL MAKE TO GREEN HOUSE GAS EMISSIONS. IF

IF THE MINE GOES AHEAD THEN THE COAL FROM IT WILL BE BURNT SOMEWHERE ON THE PLANET. THIS WILL CONTRIBUTE TO DANGEROUS CLIMATE CHANGE.

COMMISSIONERS, YOU'VE BEEN TOLD BY SOME THAT WE MUST HAVE THIS COAL MINE FOR THE JOBS, THAT WE MUST HAVE COAL FOR STEEL AND THAT WE NEED COAL TO KEEP THE LIGHTS ON. I SUBMIT THAT THESE STATEMENTS IGNORE THE PRECARIOUS POSITION HUMANITY NOW FINDS ITSELF IN.

AFTER ABOUT 50 YEARS OF STUDY BY THOUSANDS OF SCIENTIFIC ORGANISATIONS WE KNOW FAST PACED CLIMATE CHANGE IS HAPPENING AND WE KNOW THAT THE BURNING OF FOSSIL FUELS IS THE MAJOR CAUSE. THE UNITED NATIONS INTER-GOVERNMENTAL PANEL ON CLIMATE CHANGE, GIVEN ALL THE RESEARCH & EVIDENCE THEY HAVE ACCESS TO, RECENTLY MADE IT ABUNDENTLY CLEAR. WE NOW HAVE 12 YEARS IN WHICH TO ACT. THE WORLD MUST QUICKLY AND DRASTICALLY REDUCE THE BURNING OF ALL FOSSIL FUELS. WE HUMANS MUST TAKE IMMEDIATE AND COLLECTIVE ACTION TO AVOID MAJOR CLIMATE BREAKDOWN AND THE COLLAPSE OF THE BIOSPHERE AND THUS CIVILIZATION.

LIKE MANY HERE, I HAVE GRANDCHILDREN AND I'M HORRIFIED BY THE THOUGHT OF WHAT THE WORLDS CLIMATE WILL BE LIKE IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. PLEASE COMMISSIONERS, TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE TOTAL POLLUTION THIS COAL MINE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR.

RECENTLY TALKING WITH MY DAUGHTER, ABOUT DEALING WITH CLIMATE CHANGE AND THE FUTURE ENVIRONMENT CONFRONTING HER 3 CHILDREN, SHE MADE THIS STATEMENT "WE MUST BE RELEVANT TO THEIR FUTURE, WE MUST SHOW SOME COURAGE".

Geoff Wright's verbal submission to the Independent Planning Commission hearing re Hume Coal Project at Moss Vale Services Club on 27th February 2019

25 June 2018

Dear Landowner,

Hume Coal has undertaken revisions to the groundwater model in line with suggestions from an independent groundwater expert engaged by the NSW Government which has allowed us to clarify the potential impacts on your licenced groundwater bore. As a result of the updated modelling your bore has been identified as being affected. The specific impacts are detailed in the groundwater bore overview sheet attached to this letter.

I understand that any impact on your property can be worrying, however please be assured that Hume Coal will make every effort to ensure any impact on your water bore is temporary and you will not, for any period of time, be left without access to water for ALL your needs.

Hume Coal would like to work closely with you as we progress our proposed coal development through the NSW Planning Process. We will ensure that your groundwater rights and needs are accommodated, in accordance with the NSW Aquifer Interference Policy.

In this package, we have included copy of the NSW Government's Aquifer Interference Policy (AIP), some relevant AIP factsheets, information on the proposed impacts to your groundwater bore and potential mitigation measures.

It would be greatly appreciated if we could arrange a meeting to further discuss the proposed development, the impact on your groundwater bore and the potential mitigation measures.

A Hume Coal staff member will endeavour to contact you within the coming weeks to arrange a meeting. Should there be any issue obtaining your contact details and you have not been contacted within 2 weeks of receiving this letter, please call the Hume Coal office on 02 4869 8200.

Kindest Regards,



Greig Duncan
Hume Coal Project Director

Groundwater Bore Overview – 2018

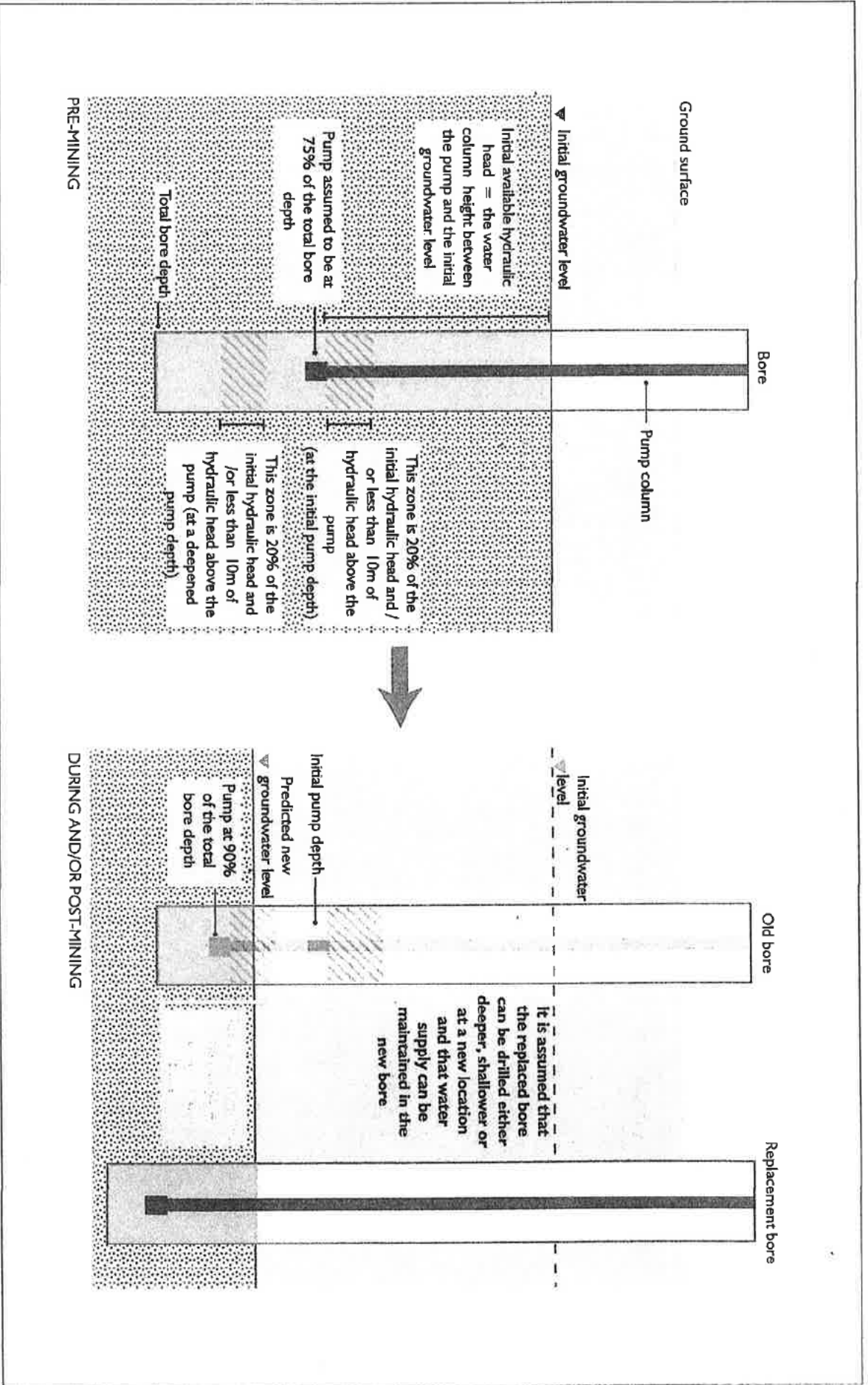
Bore	GW052538
Owner	Pamela Wright Enterprises
Property Address	604 Belanglo Road, Belanglo NSW 2577
Easting / Northing	244625 / 6175333
Licensed Purpose	Stock and Domestic
Proposed mitigation	Replacement bore (S/D)

Bore Details

Initial Standing Water Level (m)	63.51
Screens From (m)	6.6
Screens To (m)	88.0
Total Depth (m)	88.0

Bore Impacts

Project drawdown - max (m)	13.1
Project time to max drawdown (years)	6.5
Project time to 2m drawdown (years)	6.0
Project time to 2m recovery (years)	43.5
Number of years drawdown > 2m (years)	37.5



HUME COAL

Make good strategy - replacement bore
 Hume Coal Project
 Drawdown in landholder bores
 Figure 4.3