

Dear the whom it may concern,

My name is Brenton Franks I'm a local from Rylstone who is 20 years old and I have lived here all my life. I'm 5th generation of living around Rylstone Kandos Area. I'm writing about the Kepco Bylong project for their coal mine.

I think this project will be great for the Kandos Rylstone area as we lost the cement works when it closed down, same with Charbon coal mine and now Sibelco at Charbon is now looking too closed down as well. We need industry in this area for jobs, apprenticeship and people to stay in the lovely area.

I'm a fitter machinist and welder by trade I done my time at Maceco engineering in Kandos and it was amazing but I had to finish up there because of no work and it still like that today and it might closed down if there is no industry around the area. I have to travel for work I was currently travel to Mudgee mines which was 115km one way doing long hours and night shifts. Since I have finish working at Mudgee mine as a contractor, I'm currently just start at Kings engineering in Wallerawang which is 90km from home and I'm going too relocated down here.

If I we had jobs in Rylstone Kandos area when Bylong start up I who love to come back it home to me. A lot of my mates have left the area to find jobs as there is nothing here anymore. Schools are losing student families are moving out of the area as there is no jobs in the area or it too far to travel every day to the mines as it 100km plus to work.

Kepco is an industry we really need for Rylstone and Kandos for jobs, bring families back to the area, creating apprenticeships, training people to operator the mine. Kepco has put a lot of money into events and schools etc which is great to see.

I have been a big support of the project all the way though going to their information days and also down to the site to have a look around. As I have work in the mining industry and also I'm 5 generation coal miner, the industry is really safe and got controls to elimated the impacts of the environment. Like water management plans, dust and Nosie pollution and how to control that like water spray over hoppers, water down roads, make plant less noise, and monitor it always and change practice if it rises.

After the open cut finish most people would not know about the underground mining active. You can't see it or hear it. It does no damage to the environment above. This can be prove with the Charbon coal mine, Kandos Mines, even down at Airly Coal and Lithgow. Most people would not now that they were mines there.

People are always going to complain about everything not about mining even clean energy as well. Some people have nothing better to do with their lives so they complain about these thing as they don't understand the whole project like some other people like myself. If you understand how mines work and the procedures in place to stop environment impact I bet they be surprise. Australia is the number 1 country that does mining the safest way and we should be proud of this project in our backyards. We need jobs, we need people to stay in the area and come back to this area.

I don't think people realised that town ship of Rylstone and Kandos most local are screaming out for industry for their kids to get apprenticeships and jobs and help the local business around the place. I who love to raise my family when I start one in this area but I can't if there is no jobs here. We need

this project to go ahead or we are going to be a ghost town. Please for us local past this project we need it badly.

We don't want to our doctor to leave the area, or our beautiful schools to closed down and lose the teacher. We don't want to lose our local business where we buy our food and other items we need. We don't want to relocate for work if we had the industry here. We want to all these things to stay here and plus maybe hopefully get more people to the area and might bring new actives in for the town.

For me I want to see this project to go ahead and I would love to work there. As a tradesman I want to pass my skill and knowledge to apprentices and train them up correctly. I want to raise my family here and take them to the local schools. I want to buy a house here and I want a full time job that I know I got work all the time. This will not happened if Bylong doesn't go ahead and I can't do this in Rylstone. I want to make mates and know that they are going to stay in the area for a long time.

I think Kepco will be a great project for the area as it will help us local out. Especially young ones like me to help us to get fulltime work so we can buy a house, raise our families, be happy with a job we love doing, and mostly being close to family and friends. Give us hope that the town isn't dead. Keep our doctors in the area. Help the local business and I could keep going on. I Brenton Franks local of Rylstone and Kandos all my life, I 110% support this project with all positive view and not one negative. I'm would of like to speak at the PAC but I just started my new Job. Thanks for the time to read my letter to see my view as a young 20 year old local and why we need this for our town.

Yours sincerely,

Brenton Franks.