Members of the Independent Planning Commission NSW 15/10/18

My name is Mick Hanlon, I am the joint owner of the Condobolin Newsagency and the Technical Manager/Services Co-Ordinator of the Clean TeQ Sunrise ML at Fifield.

**I totally support the approval and development of the Clean TeQ Sunrise Nickel Cobalt and Scandium mine at Fifield.**

I was born in Junee and grew up on a farm in the Riverina Region of NSW and therefore I have a lot of empathy and understanding of the benefits of our primary industries.

I moved off the farm over 35 years ago and took up roles as a residential miner in many small rural communities including Temora, Nyngan and Condobolin in NSW, Coolgardie, Paraburdoo and Panawoncia in WA. I have witnessed the massive positive effect that the mining industry has on these communities.

More recently we moved to Condobolin to take up the position of General Manager of the Mineral Hill Mine, When operating the Mineral Hill mine provided in excess of 100 direct jobs and many indirect jobs, we saw the township of Condobolin grow and develop with new houses being built, a lot more money available to all sections of the retail sector, Engineering firms increase their workforce, increase in school enrollment numbers, more funds available to the local council through the VPA, The construction of a “mining village” at the local Caravan Park which was “gifted” to the Lachlan Shire Council, Overall the improvement in services to the Condobolin community. There were many mining companies sponsored functions and community support, we participated in many charity events, when Mineral Hill closed we witnessed the decline in the retail sectors, with many people leaving town to find employment. One of the towns major retail shop (Target Country) closed with the loss of approximately 30 jobs (part- and full-time positions)

One of the most positive examples of mining on a rural community was our experience in Nyngan, we moved to Nyngan with the commencement of operations at the Girilambone Copper mine in 1991, Nyngan is a small community that was living off the sheep’s back, the Girilambone copper company had over 180 employees, initially the town struggled to keep up with the development, but the building of new houses by the mining company and developers soon had the town in a stable situation.

The town had to get ~5 extra school teachers, there were additional doctors, nurses and support staff. New shops opened in the main street, all the motels and hotels where continually booked our, the town was alive and growing with apprenticeships and many other opportunities. There was also a very positive and happy feel around the town, the town thrived during “the 10-year drought”

There were also many hidden and unforeseen benefits, Girilambone Copper was heavily involved with schools especially the high school with student development and encouragement towards tertiary educations. Prior to the mining very few students aspired too or entered tertiary education, with the mine development and the student development program a lot higher percentage of students went onto tertiary education, with some obtaining their degrees and returning to Nyngan to practice in their area of expertise. The attitude of the town was great.

We were in Nyngan when Girilambone copper closed and witnessed the town decline, we saw houses empty and the town drain of people almost overnight, this downturn continued for approximately eight months until the Tritton Mine commenced construction, the town came back to life, new buildings, miners’ accommodations centers, chartered flights from the capital cities. Mining helped to shape Nyngan to what it is today, a thriving small country town despite the drought. The town was ecstatic, they had witnessed the “good times” with Girilambone Copper successfully operating, then the end of the mine life, with a hiatus until the next Mine commenced (Tritton Copper Mine)

The same will happen to all the towns in surrounding area of the Clean TeQ Sunrise mine, these community desperately needs this development to proceed, they all need the injection of people and money with the flow effect of major development, the small businesses in the local areas are suffering because of the drought, mining will enhance all the surrounding areas with the injection of money from wages, company support of all facets of the community, VPAs and the flow-effect.

I ask you, Members of the Independent Planning Commission to offer the same support and approve the Mod 4 application.

Thank you very much

Regards

Mick Hanlon

Technical Manager/Services Co-Ordinator

Clean TeQ Sunrise

76 Bathurst St.

Condobolin, NSW, 2877

0418 451 530