This mine and it's infrastructure in in a wildlife area and in a water catchment area. Many farmers use groundwater and the groundwater is also used by vegetation as it replenishes from below. Once the water table is drawn down by the mine, farm animals will suffer, crops cannot be properly irrigated, and vegetation will have less water to survive, that will affect wildlife as well.

The area is known for tourism and that creates many jobs. Once the mine starts being built and then is in operation, less people will visit and hence jobs will reduce in other areas. The restaurant across the road, “Zen Oasis”, will suffer a lot.

The extra traffic, noise, and pollution will be detrimental as well, to people living in the area; plus the surrounding areas as it can get very windy here – coal dust will be blown larges distances. Talk of protecting the coal itself from being blown away in winds is virtually laughable.

Do we need more coal? No we don’t. Hume Coal had the opportunity to buy another mine in Tahmoor but didn’t, coal mines are closing around the world and struggling. Originally they said the coal was high grade for coking, then that changed to lower grade coal where a lot would be used for thermal coal – what else will they change? The number of trains estimated by Hume is very likely to increase as well, causing problems all the way down to the Illawarra. The planet needs less burning of coal.

Many thanks for the opportunity.