I live next door to the Russell Vale mine site and would be furious if they were given permission to start up operations again they have been in Care and Maintenance since we moved here and we still get coal dust on everything inside and out. For this basket case of a company to go back into production is lunacy. “Wollongong Coal has a multibillion-dollar debt problem and would struggle to financially cover the estimated $215 million rehabilitation cost of its existing mine site at Russell Vale.” How can an insolvent company trade anyway?

Its Wongawilli mine was shut down over safety issues (Roof collapse) and yet the Planning Department is considering trusting this shoddy irresponsible wreck of a company with our precious drinking water **are you kidding**?

Wollongong Coal should have been stripped of its right to mine coal in NSW years ago. It is abhorrent and irresponsible for the government to recommend in favour of this expansion beneath Sydney and the Illawarra’s dams. **WE CAN’T DRINK COAL.**

I call on the Department to reject this proposal and to follow through with your responsibilities to the community and environment. This is a scandalous situation WCL have flouted the law repeatedly and lack consideration for residents and the environment.