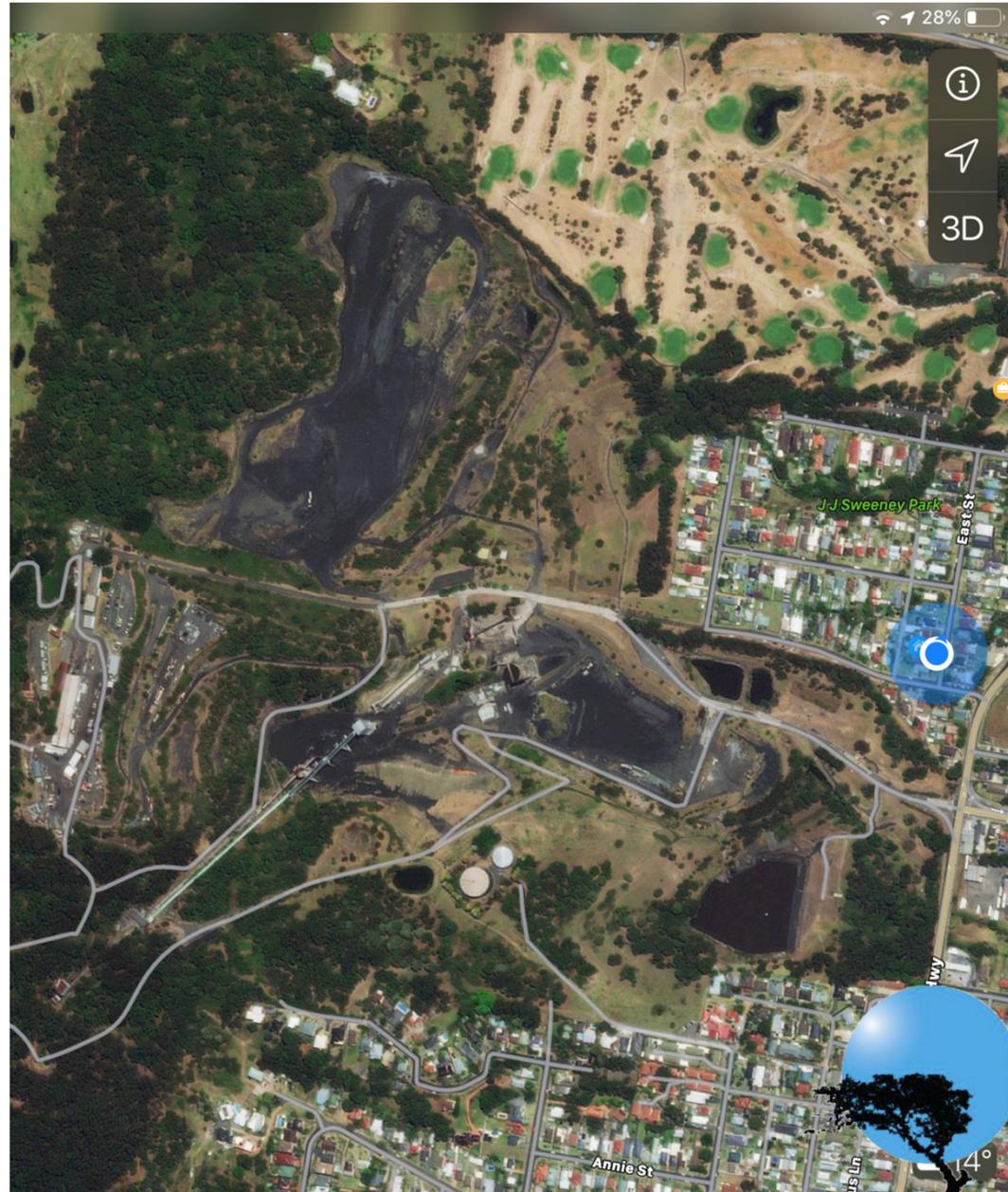


# Dr Graham Heath

I am a member of Illawarra  
Residents for Responsible  
Mining

I live adjacent to the mine at  
the blue dot shown

I am a retired University  
Academic who has taught  
chemistry at Stirling,  
Edinburgh and ANU



**IRRM**

# Hydraulic connection threats



- I present for the commissions 'consideration excerpts from a submission made to a previous PAC (Jan 2015?) by Dr Keith Tognetti
- This sobering presentation and any earlier submissions by Dr Keith Tognetti BE (mining engineering – coal) must be brought to your attention
- It may be that his submission led to the shift from Longwall to Bord and Pillar – in this repeat proposal to recommence mining at Russell Vale
- I will provide a written submission

# Thank-you Dr Tognetti !

## Previous submission attached



- The passage of time means we can no longer have the benefit of Dr Tognetti's advice directly, but the documents provided by him (to previous PACs) remain and are increasingly relevant (please find them all)
- Dr Tognetti's conclusions remain valid
- Any hydraulic connection from the Cataract Reservoir to the Russell Vale mine will be catastrophic with the possibility of significant collapse of the escarpment
- The notoriously friable geology of the area means this is possible when the ground below the escarpment is disturbed
- Minimal risk is not no risk
- No risk of any subsidence due to deliberate interference with the escarpment within the RV mine is acceptable

# I hope to outlive this mine!



- An earlier younger speaker hopes to outlive coalmining
- At 76, this mine is the one which I can directly address
- The interminable amended proposals from the company have led to demonstrations of the fallibility of the modelling and excessive subsidence – moving to less bad methods is not the answer – no risk to the escarpment is acceptable
- At 76 I find it exhausting to have to maintain vigilance in opposing this mine. I am encouraged by the enthusiasm and scholarship of all of those objecting in this hearing. The future belongs to the next generation.