I write this submission to object to the Maxwell underground Coal mine project and urge The Commission, Minsters and State Government to support our Thoroughbred Industry. We need to look at the long-term environmental issues and not to the short-term financial gain to NSW’s economic recovery by allowing an underground mine, in such close proximity to both Coolmore and Godolphin horse studs.

It goes without saying that NSW State Government needs to say NO to mining companies that continue to harass local businesses. As you are aware this is the 5th time a mining project has tried to gain approval to operate a mine adjacent to our country’s leading thoroughbred studs. Why do we not accept the past hearings where NO means NO and stop these mining companies from threatening the livelihoods of businesses already established in Jerrys Plains.

I have been extremely lucky to have visited Coolmore on numerous occasions, and it is truly horse paradise. If you allow the underground mine how can you ensure that the mine will not contribute to sinkholes, loss of biodiversity, water contamination, acid mine damage, soil contamination, ground and surface water pollution which can all lead to health issues. We need to protect these properties and ensure they do not become threatened by soil or water contamination, which could ultimately result in their closure.

I ask you to please support both Coolmore and Godolpin and honour the decisions previously made in the past attacks by mining companies on these precious properties and give them back the security to continue investing in the local community and the Australian thoroughbred industry unopposed.

Your consideration is greatly appreciated.

Jane Baldwin