

I've worked within the thoroughbred industry on and off for the last 10years, and my partner has worked solely in the mining industry for the same amount of time. We are both in objection to the project.

I am all for the welfare of the Thoroughbreds, but you also need to consider the health of the people who live in the area. Excess dust created by the mines takes a huge toll on people's health - both physical and mental. I do not understand how they can promote all the 'employment opportunities' this new mine will bring when they are currently making workers redundant all across the Hunter – even though the mines still have years left in them.

Tourism will also suffer with this new mine. Who wants to tour the immaculate wineries and thoroughbred studs only to arrive and find them shrouded in a thick haze? I love to support local, but I am already at the stage where I do not invite friends and family to the area, preferring to take them away from the depressing eyesores that are the mine sites. In 2018 I spent 2 weeks travelling through China and I was astonished that the air pollution was far worse in the Hunter Valley.

To proceed with the project would be foolish. It is pure greed with zero consideration for those who try to live a quiet lifestyle in what was once a pristine and scenic landscape.

Don't undermine us.