

Independent Planning Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth St
Sydney 2000

HUME COAL PROJECT SSD 7172 and SSD 7171 –Second referral

Dear Commissioners,

Zen Oasis thanks the NSW State Government for the comprehensive investigation into the Hume Coal Project and Berrima Rail Project which provides us with a clear position to reject the projects, based on the environment and community reasons.

Why we do not need this project has been established by those who have considered it from many different aspects. From the Zen Oasis perspective, this project is not consistent with Zen Oasis values and interests, and Zen Oasis could not be compensated. That's why we must make this solemn statement.

What Zen Oasis would like to provide for the community is a holistic environment, not just the food and view. Zen Oasis is not in the position to tell people what to do. What we can offer is an environment for us to re-connect to the land, the natural world and the community, and ourselves.

Please refer to the video [<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nlt2gmHaOnE>] , as we are so pleased of what has been captured by this local artist, and this explains what we hope to provide for the community.

These are the perspectives of Berrima residents who would like to arrange a Special Event at Zen Oasis:

We are thinking that Zen Oasis is such a lovely location, with beautiful surroundings, and ample room for such an event. It is very important to highlight how important it is to protect and preserve this beautiful special area of the Southern Highlands for future generations, and Zen Oasis is at the heart of the proposed mine development, and is so close to the precious protected Wingecarribee river.

---- from residents of Berrima community

We have worked on this project gradually for a long time, and finally we can now move to the second version Zen Oasis. What Hume Coal has planned, undoubtedly will have huge impact on our business and investment, as the State Government affirms:

This assessment indicates that the project would result in some significant, though relatively localised, residual impacts – particularly in relation to noise, visual and cultural landscape impacts in the Medway Road area.

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This impact could never be compensated. What has been invested is not just money, but also the human element of many diverse considerable personal contributions, together with the earnest aspirations of all concerned.

Please let us apologise to Hume Coal for us to say “no”. As a business entity, we never want to say no to any other entity.

At Zen Oasis we do believe that we, as human beings, live in one planet; it would be better if we could work together to restore the natural aspect of our lives and environment.

For this reason and belief, we must say "no" to Hume Coal again.