

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PAC Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Objection to Drayton South
Date: Thursday, 24 November 2016 5:01:34 PM

I have been involved in the thoroughbred industry in the Upper Hunter Valley for more than 40 years.

It is unique in that the climate, alkaline soils, water availability, infrastructure and human resources either naturally occurring or now established in the area make it one of the leading business clusters in the world in a multi-billion-dollar industry that is becoming increasingly important to export earnings.

To threaten the departure of two of the most influential operators in the industry for the sake of a very small mine makes no sense at all.

There are thousands of square miles of land in Australia where coal deposits exist, many in isolated or undeveloped areas where the mining of coal will not threaten existing, established industries.

Australia's thoroughbred breeding and racing industries, which are built around world's best practice in stud farm operation, are sustainable, and growing without polluting the atmosphere or the waterways and increasing the capital value of the land and buildings in the area.

Mining, while, as we have seen repeatedly, producing short term 'boom' conditions, eventually exhausts a resource and usually results in loss of employment and negative capital growth, not to mention the damage to the local area from pollution.

In another century the verdant pastures of the stud farms will still be producing world champion racehorses and providing sustainable jobs for many, many people, particularly young women, unlike the mining industry. All we will have left of that is large holes in the ground and polluted soils and waterways.

This should be a no-brainer. One small mine extension that is economically insignificant against an internationally significant business cluster that is vital to the national economy.

Approving this coal mining proposal would be stupid and irresponsible.

Ian McDue

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