From: To:

Enquiries Mailbox Cc:

Subject: objection to Drayton South

Date: Wednesday, 23 November 2016 7:53:15 PM

> 23rd November, 2016 Commission Secretariat Planning Assessment Commission Level 3 201 Elizabeth Street Sydney NSW 2000

Re: Objection to Drayton South Coal Project Application Number: SSD

I write to express my objection to the referenced application.

Dear Sir.

I write to you as someone who is directly involved in the Australian thoroughbred breeding industry, as the owner of a thoroughbred breeding property in Bowral, NSW and user of the services of Hunter Valley based

Our family has a deep international history in breeding equine athletes for various other competitive equine pursuits most notable as the owner of one of Europe's largest harness racing and breeding operations.

Like thoroughbreds, horses developed for harness racing are required to attain a peak level of fitness. They are bred to possess the genetic blue prints that will enable them to perform as elite athletes, however it is the environment in which they are reared and nurtured that truly enables them to realise this genetic potential. It is because of this fact that I believe that I am in a position to express my greatest concern on behalf of the studs/breeders that would be directly affected by the extension of the Drayton South project.

It is broadly accepted amongst breeders the world over that the quality of the air that a young horse breathes is as important to their development as the grass that they consume. In addition to this I would urge you to consider the flighty temperament of a horse. It is no secret that horses react unpredictably to sudden noise. The risk of a young horse being startled by the blast from a coal mine and injuring itself is significant. An open cut coal mine less than a kilometre away from two of Australia's largest stud farms stands to not only have a very direct impact on the health of the animals that they seek to nurture but also on their clients perceptions of their suitability as a stud farm. Breeders understandably seek to have their stock reared in an environment that best guarantees their wellbeing. In short, Coolmore and Darley would ultimately be forced to relocate their stud farms.

I urge you to reject the proposed Drayton South project on the grounds that it would inevitably force the relocation of Australia's two largest stud farms to another region. As someone from the Northern Hemisphere who has extensive experience in the commercial breeding of horses, I believe that this will stand to



Jean Etienne Dubois