

NSW Planning Assessment Commission
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street
Sydney NSW 2001

13 November 2017

Dear Sirs/Madam,

**Rocky Hill Coal Project - Application No. SSD 5156 and Stratford Coal Extension Project - No. SSD 4966
MOD1**

This is a personal **objection to the Rocky Hill Project** and the Stratford Coal Extension Project.

I live and work in Gloucester and believe that the proposed Rocky Hill coal mine will have a detrimental effect on people such as myself: recent arrivals who have made the tree change to a pretty farming town that will instead become an ugly mining town.

The peacefulness and scenic beauty of the Gloucester region is what convinced me to move here from noisy Sydney 7 years ago. I live on a small rural property in a narrow side valley off the main Gloucester valley near the end of Faulkland Road. The junction of the two valleys is at the locality of Faulkland which happens to be the western-most boundary of Gloucester Resources Ltd's licence area EL 6523. The proposed Rocky Hill coal mine is just 5km further eastwards.

On any given morning, the high-sided Gloucester valley reflects the noise of heavy goods trains travelling on the main northern rail line. I'm 9km from the rail line but I can hear the rumble of trains as they pass through the main Gloucester valley. Yes, it's that quiet up here. I certainly don't miss the noise of Sydney but I'm worried sick at the prospect of Rocky Hill coal mining operations.

I believe the Rocky Hill Project should be rejected due to the noise impact issues that will be generated by the mine's operating times of Monday-Saturday 7.00am to 10.00pm. This noise will be a gross assault on the physical and mental health of Gloucester's community. This noise will be unbearable in such a quiet rural area. Unfair and unbearable.

If I wanted to live in a mining town I would've moved to Singleton in the Hunter Valley. Like many of my fellow tree-changer residents, I can now see my vision for peaceful country living crumbling before my eyes. And I can also see that my investment in Gloucester of \$500,000 for my new home is at risk.

Rocky Hill's proposed noise mitigation mounds just won't work. I can already hear the sounds of heavy goods trains echoing up the valley. It will be much worse with constant heavy mining machinery and 2,520 mine blasts.

Grounds for refusal:

- It is too close to our community: 0.9km is just too close.
- The noise alone will be enough to risk our community's physical health and mental health.
- It threatens the personal residential investments of hundreds of Gloucester residents worth millions of dollars.

Sincerely,

Brad Bowden

Gloucester 2422 •