

From: [REDACTED]
To: [PAC Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Rocky Hill Coal Project - Objection to the project
Date: Sunday, 12 November 2017 4:00:57 PM

Submission to the Planning Assessment Commission re the Rocky Hill Coal Project

I object to the proposed Rocky Hill Coal Project

I farm, with my family, on the Manning River at Burrell Creek down stream from the proposed Rocky Hill coal project.

Throughout this process I have been alarmed at the inadequate nature of Rocky Hill Coal Project proposal.

It does not take sufficient account of the more extreme weather that we have been suffering in our region for example the April 2015, greater than 1 in 100, flood event just in the adjacent valley at Dungog. (source: <http://www.abc.net.au/news/2015-04-22/dungog-worst-hit-by-wild-nsw-weather/6411816>). These events, according to the best science available, will become more regular with the Climate Change we are currently experiencing. Planning laws in NSW have failed to keep up with this new reality. For example waste water dams are being constructed with inadequate provision for the increasing intensity of rainfall events enhancing the risk of a catastrophic contamination event. The gross negligence of NSW planning in this regard is culpable. New climatic conditions demand new planning laws with more robust engineering design.

The mine appeared to have inadequate water management according to the comprehensive submission by Mid Coast Water.

The water that will run off this site will end up in the Avon river. This river forms part of the Manning River Catchment. The water intake for a domestic supply for 75,000 people is downstream near Wingham NSW. The mine has the potential to contaminate a natural water supply that is irreplaceable.

The human cost of this is simply too high.

Contamination of downstream agricultural land and water supplies is also likely if this proposal proceeds.

The Manning River is a significant tourist attraction in itself and the impacts on tourism downstream from the project need to be assessed. A contaminated water course will discourage the recreational fishing, commercial fishing, oyster farms, agriculture and tourism industries. These effects have not been assessed.

The health risks of coal dust pollution to the adjacent township of Gloucester is an unacceptably high human price to pay for this development.

Gloucester has a thriving tourist trade. The mine is simply too close to the town creating dust, noise and visual impacts. The risks to tourism from the coal mine proposal threatens jobs and economic activity in Gloucester.

I urge the Planning Assessment Commission to reject the Rocky Hill Coal project in entirety. The risks to Gloucester and the entire region are too high.

