

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, 18 June 2020 7:31 AM
To: IPCN Enquiries Mailbox
Subject: Re:Chain Valley Colliery MOD 3 (SSD 5465) and Mannering Colliery MOD 5 (MP_0611)

Importance: High

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Categories: [REDACTED]

Dear Mr James,

We have typos in the first paragraph in our previous submission sent to you. Can you please use this corrected version?

We the undersigned in this email are elderly retirees living in Macquarie Shores Home Village would like to reiterate our strong objection to the above project proposal without any new condition of consent to be imposed and would also like to reiterate our support for Mr Malcolm May Macquarie Shores Home Village Director's previous submission objecting the project on behalf of 315 village residents our other neighbours who are concerned about the increase in the level and duration of sleep disturbance noise.

We the undersigned are adjacent neighbours and would like to bring to the commissioners' attention of the following issues and concerns:

Delta Colliery EMM Consultant

EMM Consultant is contracted by Delta Colliery to carry out noise compliance assessment issues in our village. They are also producing reports on behalf of Delta Colliery and submitting to DPIE in support of the project proposal. We are aware that EMM consultant appointment by Delta Colliery to monitor compliant noise at our village is endorsed by DPIE. **There is a conflict of interest in this arrangement which we are very concerned.**

We believe there are flaws in the overall compliant noise monitoring procedure at our village by EMM consultant. The EMM consultant attended noise monitoring procedure did not take into account noise emitting from the whole overland conveyor system whilst transporting coal to VPPS after crushing at Mannering. It only measured operational activities at Delta Colliery only. We have been addressing our concern with DPIE. The 24 hours directional noise logger located in the village is commissioned to measure compliant noise level at Delta Colliery only and again not intended to capture any noise emitting from the whole overland conveyor system transporting coal to and handling coal stockpile at VPPS after crushing at Mannering. The noise emitting from the overland conveyor system transporting coal to VPPS and handling stockpile of coal by bulldozer at VPP is one of the major sleep disturbance noise problems in the village. In sum, the overall compliant noise level and duration of EMM consultant assessment at our village does not paint a true picture of the prevailing noise level and the duration that Macquarie Shores Home Village residents are experiencing particularly when noise from the ageing conveyor system whilst transporting coal to VPPS and handling stockpile of coal by VPPS bulldozer after crushing at Delta Colliery at Mannering have been completely excluded or filtered out.

Using the only compliant noise data at Delta Colliery that is without any assessment of the prevailing noise level of the whole ageing conveyor system transporting coal to and bulldozer handling coal at VPPS after crushing at Delta Colliery Mannering as a basis to produce a scenario modelling to predict future noise impact on the village in relation to the project proposal to increase coal to 2.1 millions tonnes per year and transporting over the existing overland conveyor system to VPPS is questionable and absurd.

Also, it is doubtful that EMM consultant's noise prediction modelling took into account of the age of Delta Colliery coal handling equipment and plant at Mannering. There were three non-compliant noise detected randomly by attended monitoring and not two as stated in DPIE final report. The last non-compliant noise was on the 5 May 2020 (CCC meeting on 20/5/2020). This shows that non-compliant noise can happen at any time randomly and will continue to happen in the future because of Delta Colliery's ageing operational equipment and plant. We believe that there are more non-compliant noises have been missed out and not attended to by EMM consultant compliant noise monitoring procedure because of the small random sample assessment taken at our village over a 24 hours 7 days operation.

DPIE and EPA

We are absolutely appalled that DPIE final report is supporting the claim made by EPA that the operational noise modelling and prediction of the operational noise levels from the proposed modification will meet the current noise criteria in the existing conditions of approval and considers that this modelling has been appropriately carried out and reflects the proposed operating scenario knowing that there has never been any noise assessment carried out on the whole overland conveyor system transporting to and handling coal stockpile at VPPS after crushing at Delta Colliery at Mannering. We contacted DPIE and was officially told to refer any overland conveyor noise issue to EPA, and when we contacted EPA officer responsible for Delta Colliery operation, he referred us to another officer who is responsible for VPPS operation. We were then told that there is no consented noise limit or restrictions imposed on VPPS overland conveyor system whilst transporting coal to VPPS and this also applies to the operation of bulldozer after coal was crushed at Mannering, delivered and stockpiled at VPPS when the licence was renewed by EPA. We were told that as long VPPS informed EPA that the ageing overland conveyor has been serviced and maintained everything is hanky-dory and we can't do anything about it. We offered to arrange with Delta Colliery to visit the village to monitor the noise level between mid-night 12.00 pm and 7 am with our present whilst coal is crushing at Mannering and transporting via the overland conveyor system to VPPS numerous occasions, all offers had been declined or ignored. We contacted DPIE Compliance Department and we were told to contact Delta Colliery and for any extra noise assessment have to be agreed and approved by Delta Colliery. We felt that there is absolutely no transparency the way compliant noise is monitored and assessed at the village in relation to the modification 5 project proposal because village residents have been refused any direct involvement and we have to accept whatever Delta Colliery inform us. We would like to point out that the prevailing noise level and duration that residents are experiencing in the village especially between mid-night 12.00 pm and 7 am is well under estimated particularly when noise from the overland conveyor system transporting coal to and bulldozer handling the stockpile of coal at VPPS after crushing at Mannering is excluded. It does not make any sense using only compliant noise assessment from Delta Colliery only with no regard to noise from the overland conveyor system transporting coal to and bulldozer handling stockpile of coal at VPPS after crushing at Mannering as a basis to predict future noise impact on the village knowing that the major aim of modification 5 project proposal is to increase the transportation of coal to 2.1 million tonnes per year via the existing ageing overland conveyor to VPPS. Also, the proximity of the village is 650m away from Delta Colliery coal crusher and the whole complete length of overland conveyor system is 1 km away from the village. DIPE and EPA are aware that Delta Colliery and VPPS are sister's company and Delta Colliery owns the control of the overland conveyor operations. It seems that DIPE and EPA are aware of the overland conveyor noise issue that we have been raising but they choose to ignore our concern when come to support the project 5 modification proposal.

Community social environmental right and entitlement.

When we address the sleep disturbance noise and mental health issues with Delta Colliery and VPPS, their replies always imply that they are here first. Yes, we respect that Delta Colliery and VPPS were built before the village was built, nobody can change that, however there are elderly residents in the village who have been living in Chain Valley Bay well before the Delta Colliery and VPPS were built, a few of the undersigned residents in this email are in their 80s and 90s. Also, technology has changed, the scale of mine production and operation have increased few folds since Delta colliery and VPPS were built and the demographic of Chain Valley Bay has changed immensely, more elderly and younger families are now living in Chain Valley Bay.

The prevailing noise emitting from Delta Colliery is presently having a profound impact on our mental health and the project proposal to increase coal to 2.1 million tonnes per year nearly doubling the current level, crushing at Mannering and transporting over the existing ageing overland conveyor to VPPS coupled with an increase frequent use of mine loader at Delta Colliery and bulldozers at VPPS to accommodate the increase in coal stock pile will exacerbate the level and duration of sleep disturbance noise we are encountering at the village immensely and will be putting our mental health at severe risk.

We are aware that the majority of public submission in support of the project proposal does not live near Chain Valley Bay are employed by Delta Colliery or VPPS directly or indirectly, we support their job security , we support state economy and have nothing against Delta entrepreneurship but not at an expense of community's health particularly the mental health of elderly retirees living in the village. We are equally entitled to a healthy, clean and peaceful environment to carry out our daily life.

We sincerely hope that the Independent Commissioner will impose the following conditions when modification 5 project is approved to operate 24 hours 7 days:

a) No operation of mine loader at Mannering colliery, no coal transportation over the overland conveyor to VPPS and no operation of bulldozers at VPPS between mid-night 12.00 pm and 7 am. **There is absolutely no reason why that cannot be compromised within a 24 days 7 hours operation licence.**

b) An independent formal noise monitoring and assessment procedure with DPIE direct involvement to be in place to monitor compliant noise on the whole overland conveyor system transporting the increase to 2.1 million tonnes of coal per year to VPPS after crushing at Delta Colliery including bulldozer handling coal stockpile at VPPS. Rubber roller to be installed on the conveyor and a sound proof jacket insulation to be placed over the whole ageing overland conveyor system.

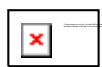
c) We welcome and delighted that Delta Colliery has officially declared that they are committed to install the coal crusher underground by 30.6.2020. We are very grateful for their endeavour and commitment and can't wait for it to happen.

Thanking you in anticipation.

Kind Regards

Macquarie Shores Home Village Residents (Adjacent Neighbours).

[Redacted signature block]



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