
From: "deidrestuart@[REDACTED]"
Date: Friday, 13 November 2020 at 1:31 pm
To: Rose-Anne Hawkeswood <Rose-Anne.Hawkeswood@planning.nsw.gov.au>, Steve Barry <Stephen.Barry@ipcn.nsw.gov.au>, "steve.oconnor@[REDACTED]"
[REDACTED] John Hann [REDACTED]
Subject: Dendrobium Expansion: Questions about the biased economic analyses in the NSW DPIE Assessment Report

Dear Mr O'Connor, Mr Hann, and Ms Hawkeswood,

RE: South32's proposed Dendrobium expansion project ECONOMICS ASSESSMENT / REVIEW

As a resident of Wollongong, I would like to ask the following questions of DPIE and also have the IPC ask these questions on my behalf:

1. Why, according to DPIE's own assessment report for this project (page 16), did the Department seek *expert advice on the downstream economic benefits of the existing Dendrobium Mine and the economic costs to the region should the Project not be approved* (as the review of the economic case for the project)? This is clearly a very biased brief to the reviewing economic consultant. Why did the Department not also seek expert advice on the economic **costs** of the existing Dendrobium Mine and the economic **benefits** to the region should the Project not be approved?
2. Furthermore, why did the Department engage BAEconomics to carry out the review of South32's EIS economic assessment conducted by Cadence Economics, when the Department should already have been aware (see <https://reneweconomy.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/190502-Brian-Fisher-Backgrounder.pdf>) that many in the community would likely not have much confidence in the impartiality of BAEconomics/Brian Fisher?

I also ask the IPC to engage some other consultancy who are highly ethical and impartial to undertake a more fullsome economic assessment of this project.

Kind regards,

Deidre Stuart

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