

Covering Information.

We are Margaret and Marcelle Schondelmaier aged 79 and 81 years of age.

We live on our 1 acre block of land with our pets at

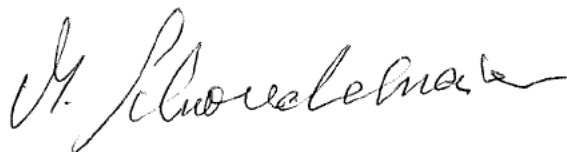
██████████ Bargo NSW 2574.

Our contacts are: Phone; 02 ██████████

Mobile; ██████████

Email; ██████████

Attached please find our submission to the Independent Planning Commission for the Tahmoor South Coal mine proposal.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'M. Schondelmaier', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Introduction

My name is Marcelle Schondelmaier I'm 81 years old.

I live in Bargo together with my wife and pets.

We will be directly affected by the undermining.

Although Simec has removed two panels in the western side of Remembrance drive in their latest application, we are on top of the next panel.

I'm the retired Postmaster and previous Chamber of Commerce president of Bargo and know a lot of the local residents and business owners personally.

This undermining proposal has caused a lot of angst and despair in the community.

I wish to state here that we are not against coal mining as a matter of fact we had investments in Clutha Coal who used to mine in the Burraborang valley.

Land Values

Millions of dollars have already been lost in land values this will continue until the land has completely settled approximately 5 years after the mining has ceased. Selling one's property is not going to be easy.

As an example: my neighbour who is directly above the proposed undermining and has lost her husband recently had her valuation on her 1 acre property reduced from 1.2 million dollars to 800,000 dollars. As she can no longer maintain and manage her 1 acre on her own, she has no choice but to sell at a considerable loss.

There will be dozens and dozens of similar cases in Bargo, possibly ourselves

Residents on the western side of Remembrance drive and the Kalinya resort would welcome Councillor Banasik's suggestion of cutting off the most northern part of panel 106B. This would also remove the impact on the bridge across the railway track into East Bargo.

State Law

We find it inconceivable that NSW State Legislation allows a foreign or Australian company and the State government, by receiving royalties, enrich themselves by damaging or destroying it's own residents properties.

Thank you for allowing me to present our input into your deliberations.

Affected Assets

After and during the undermining the subsidence will not only affect the above properties but the subsidence will continue outwards and for a considerable distance.

Directly affected assets are:

- a) Main Sydney to Melbourne railway track.
- b) Main access bridge across railway track to East Bargo.
- c) Main communication link, a fibre optic cable between Sydney and Melbourne.
- d) The sewer pipeline from Bargo to Tahmoor.
- e) The gas mains into town and residents properties.
- f) The main water supply to the town and residents properties.
- g) Any underground electrical cables on private properties.

These disruptions and repairs may take many days or months under the present legislation.

Other coking coal

There are ample supplies of coking coal adjacent to the proposed areas.

How do I know that? When running my electrical contracting business I hired out my son Andre who has an explosive licence to BHP a few years ago to do seismic underground testing.

Simec has chosen to undermine Bargo because it is the cheapest and quickest solution to mine more coking coal for it's Whyalla steel mill before it's present coking coal supply runs out at Tahmoor.

This is clearly a lack of planning and Bargo residents are impacted by its slack planning provisions.

Disharmony

Simec has used it's work force to cause disharmony amongst the local community by publishing so called facts which are not entirely correct.

One is unable to access information in regards to previous claims for repairs and demolitions in areas the mine has undermined, so therefore we cannot believe the numbers they claim will be affected by undermining in Bargo.

The miners are claiming that the opposition to undermine Bargo comes from developers. They don't seem to care about the local residents as most of the miners don't live locally in Bargo.

During these submissions I have not heard one person who is in favour of the proposal state that they actually live in Bargo.

Therefore I have to assume that they don't care about us.