

From: 
To: [IPCN Enquiries Mailbox](#)
Subject: Additional Material
Date: Sunday, 11 April 2021 7:41:52 PM

Dear IPCN

In response to the email from Bradley James (IPCN) "additional material" dated 31 March 2021. I would like you to include my response.

Demand for coal is falling and has fallen, the peak for coal mining peaked around or during 2014, since this time, the coal mining boom has diminished and yet the mining companies are still seeking further expansions and extensions, this is absurd.

The mining company's are trying to 'inflate' themselves by upselling themselves to media by saying they will create a huge number of jobs and pump up the community but in reality this is not the case at all. I know, I live in this community (for example, they will pay \$500 to a sports club and put their name all over everything but in reality \$500 would not be noticed if someone had just taken it from their bank account)

The Hunter Valley is already OVER mined, the town of Muswellbrook is so heavily over mined, if you would visit the area, you would wholly agree with this statement, even if you were pro-mining. The Hunter Valley needs to stop mining expansions immediately. The Hunter Valley will survive quite well if mining were to stop, we just need to focus on the other industry's already in the area and create new industry's for the Hunter Valley.

Another major concern is the air quality in the Hunter Valley. It was measured as being one of the worst air quality areas in the state. Air quality in Muswellbrook was compared with air quality in Liverpool (western Sydney). To compare a country town such as Muswellbrook and western Sydney suburb of Liverpool and have similar air quality, there is something very, very wrong with Muswellbrook then. If that doesn't tell you the area of Muswellbrook is over mined and through the extra mining activities comes the extra pollution, then I don't know what will.

The extra burden on the country roads is also another major concern, the roads are not maintained to allow for the extra mining traffic, therefore become unsafe, some unusable and we are continually trying to justify to the mining company's to maintain the local roads.

Another major concern is our water in the local area, the underground river which is our main source of water. Our waterbore is 85 metres deep and connected to the Sydney basin underground river which the Wybong Creek is also connected to. Looking at the underground river map, the proposed expansion runs right through the underground river which would obviously destroy the river, therefore would destroy a valuable water source for us and many, many other people. We rely on this water and if this expansion was granted, where are we going to get water from? Not just us but thousands of other people would be affected.

Mining in the Hunter Valley needs to stop.

Regards

Kim Nightingale

