

Anna and Richard Turner
'Dochairn'
[REDACTED]
Sutton Forest, NSW 2577

07 August 2021

Office of the Independent Planning Commission NSW
Level 3, 201 Elizabeth Street Sydney NSW 2000

BY EMAIL TO : ipcn@ipcn.nsw.gov.au

Attention Ms Jocelyn Chan

Dear Madam,

**Re: Additional Material re Hume Coal Project (SSD 7172) and Berrima Rail Project (SSD 7171)
OBJECTION**

We refer to 'Additional Material' regarding this matter as issued by your office by email on 02 August 2021.

We also refer to our previous letters of objection to both the mine and rail projects dated 28.06.17, 30.01.19 and 17.07.2.

This letter is specifically related to Item 1 of the 'Additional Material'

"1. In consideration of potential disruptions, please provide further information regarding the existing and proposed number of additional rail movements per day, the number of 'at grade' level rail crossings between the project site and the Port Kembla terminal and how the potential impacts of train movements were considered in the Department's assessment. "

We submit the following objections:

The proposed extension to the Berrima Branch Line

Two new lines are proposed from the mine to the cement works and include a vast circular loop on the western side of the highway. This would be highly visible from the Highway and a number of key vantage points and would be highly intrusive and unattractive in what is currently a bucolic rural landscape.

We contend that neither the applicant's EIS nor the Department have addressed the visual impact of these new lines adequately.

Traffic disruption

The mine would increase traffic on the line to Port Kembla line by 8 trips per day, up to a potential total of 34 trips per day

The proposal will have significant impact on the 17 affected level crossings which we understand will add 24 minutes of closures per day. The applicant's report simply states that these impacts can be managed but we believe this is simplistic and ignores the extensive effect on traffic that will only increase as future development occurs in this region. This is a

major great area and how will roads cope in say 10 years with the increased traffic? What is the impact on emergency vehicles? This has not been assessed at all.

The key issue is not about capacity of the network, but the significant disruption caused by the additional trains

Air Pollution

Coal dust and diesel engine emissions can carry a long way in windy conditions and dust from both the mining operations and trains could be a threat to health. The Department says that this can be managed by the operator but we find this unconvincing given that this area is very windy as highlighted throughout July and now into August this year.

Noise Pollution

The 8 additional daily trains per day between the mine site and Port Kembla will be long with many carriages and be extremely heavy necessitating hard working and noisy diesel engines. This noise pollution will be most undesirable and affect many residents in the vicinity of the train line.

Conclusion

We contend that the proposed railway project with its additional traffic, noise and dust is unacceptable and should be grounds in itself to refuse the proposed mine project.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covers the signature area. Above the box, the top of a blue circular stamp is visible.

Anna and Richard Turner,
Cc Mrs Mary Rose McDonald