

Submission on Glendell Continued Operations SSD 9349 and SSD 5850 Mod 4 - Additional Material.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit an objection to the Glendell Continued Operations SSD 9349 and SSD 5850 Mod 4 - Additional Material.

I wish to focus on the information provided in the transcript of the meeting with Heritage NSW and the NSW Heritage Council and the possible relocation of Ravensworth to make way for Glencore's proposed mine extension.

The IPC must decide between the short term socio-economic benefits of the mine with its unavoidable impacts on the local environment and its contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions and the value of Ravensworth if it is moved to make way for the mine.

As one of the earliest and most authentic foundation homesteads in the Hunter, Ravensworth is unique. It is irreplaceable and cannot be moved without being rebuilt, effectively destroying its European heritage.

Ravensworth is a place where early settlers profoundly impacted the land and the indigenous communities in a number of ways. Aboriginal communities were displaced and stories abound of conflict between settlers and those communities.

There is little or no tangible evidence of what happened at Ravensworth except for stories which First Nations people say must be experienced where they happened - in country as part of their oral history.

The diversity of views and versions of what happened at Ravensworth and which may seem to be in conflict only add to the layering and richness of stories that connect the homestead with Aboriginal and European cultural heritage.

There can be no doubt that the relocation of Ravensworth would mean the destruction of the homestead's Aboriginal and European heritage because **where** it is, is as important as **what** it is.

So what value do we assign to this heritage asset? And is it worth destroying to make way for a mine extension?

There are plenty of examples of European history being preserved on valuable land because we deem the building's history in that place to be important.

Should we not place the same value on Aboriginal heritage and the intangible elements of their stories? The intangible values are no less real than the building itself.

Let's mean what we say... acknowledge the traditional owners of the land and respect the elders past, present and emerging by preserving Ravensworth and allow our understanding of what happened there to be handed on to future generations.

If this proposal is approved Ravensworth will be lost forever to a 21 year mine extension.

If this proposal is refused Ravensworth can be restored and live to tell it's unique story to future generations. And when the surrounding landscapes of the Hunter change as coal mines around the homestead close, Ravensworth's importance in that landscape will grow.

And as for the Glendell mine extension... there are plenty of other coal mines and many more proposals in the pipeline propping up an industry with a limited future. And Glencore will simply move on with other projects.

The value of Ravensworth and its curtilage is greater than this mine extension.

This proposal must be refused.

Brenda Gerrie

Eden NSW

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