

[Glendell Continued Operations – SSD 9349 and SSD 5850 Mod 4.](#)

Dear IPCN

Thank-you for the opportunity to raise concerns related to the Glendell continuation project and modification 4.

To make it clear I object to the recommended approval by the department of planning on these grounds.

1. Biodiversity offset

The EIS document related to biodiversity offset – please take attention to the figures 1.2 and 1.3 related to term existing mount Owen Complex biodiversity offset area.

The public was not provided information related to these figures which prevented them on making an accurate assessment of the status of the existing biodiversity offset. The figures also could possibly influence the perception of the public that the proponent has met all the goals related to obtaining biodiversity offsets.

Clearly this could influence submissions or mindset of the public related to the existing biodiversity offset

Fact: Just under the state forest in the Travelling stock reserve, which is crown land- which has been displayed as an existing biodiversity offset

Email: from crown land on the 10th of May 2021- extract below with

“Crown Land parcels 7001/93635 and 7302/1132839 remain Reserved R89694 for Camping & Travelling Stock, unaffected by any Biodiversity Offset. There are no requests from the mining industry to use this land for Biodiversity Offsets. Note that the process for consent to Biodiversity Offsets on Crown Land is outlined below: Any application for a biodiversity conservation agreement, which would generate offsets, on Crown land would need to be considered on its merits in line with the Department’s ‘Biodiversity Conversation Agreements on Crown land’ policy.”

Biodiversity credits- on last looking at the website on outstanding credit requirements, raising extreme concerns can this be met in a realistic short timeframe. Glencore Mt Owen Complex has an existing requirement related to biodiversity offset which has been outstanding for 17 years and still not finalized.

Also, with impacts of fires and floods in the last couple of years and now climatic changes, the destruction of established areas of important ecological systems is not in the best interest for future generations and the protection of the fauna and flora.

2. Water

Notification of the closure of the Integra Underground in 2022, which contributes water under the Greater Ravensworth water and tailings strategy. From the 29th of April 2021 CCC minutes related to the IUG on the water to the system which is available on the proponent's website

BY noted that IUG's water license is for a 950ML groundwater allocation, and the mine had only used 116ML, he queried if this ground water intake is from the pit or from an extraction bore. CP advised that this was for groundwater intercepted by mining, so it is not from a bore but rather coming into the mine workings. DO asked if the "closure of IUG will affect water requirements across GRAWTS. CP indicated that this is the case and will be part of the closure planning process."

The GRWATW will be impacted by the closure of the IUG, importantly this will impact the available water supply for needs of the complex. As drought in this area was significant over years, and this state (NSW) has seen many droughts that water taken from regulated surface systems will have major impacts other industries to survive. By not approving this project will provide more water to the system for the transition of the upper hunter to changing economy and creation of new industries.

3. Employment and transition

Department of planning has stated the reason for the approval is continual employment of workers.

Now in November 2021, a public announcement through the media was that Glencore was becoming owner operator of the Mt Owen complex, that Thies contract expires 2022, Glencore Glendell employees will be transferred to Mt Owen project.

Newcastle Herald 3rd November 2022

"Mr. Gerard said that with the approval for the Glendell extension uncertain, Glencore had decided to manage its own workforce at Mount Owen once Theis's contract expires in December 2022 and shift Glendell workforce to Mt Owen"

Hard reality that contracts are not re-instated, contractors need to look for other employment, this is not just isolated to mining but all industries and business across the country.

Understable transition is now a part of the hunter economy, closure of coal fired power generators is inevitable and there are tough times coming for many of my colleagues in a new employment market, there is no choice we must transition, educate ourselves for green energy market.

Looking at the independent economic report, the concerns of feasibility of this mine in future for employment or run to term if approved. An independent report commission by the department of planning makes clear of the major concerns with economically, clearly raises concern with future employment and the saleable concerns of the product coal in the future.

This mine should not be approved.

4. Camberwell village

Not improving this mine, will improve air quality with the combination of closure of Glendell project, Liddell state, Integra underground and closure of Liddell Power station (this is well documented) This is all happening in the next 2 years.

The other important approval coming to end is the Ashton SEOC April 2022, this went through significant legal process.

The combination of all the above, will produce significant environmental changes for the village and importantly for the area.

Camberwell is situated amongst the most valuable heritage significance of the area, Dulwich homestead, St Clements church and historical cemetery, Ravensworth homestead and estate, Chain of pond inn. The Aboriginal significance is incredibly important.

With all the above, opens area for future tourism.

5. Ravensworth Homestead and the estate

The removal of the homestead from its foundations to another area, remove all heritage value of the structure and importance of place.

The options brought forward in an EIS by the proponent is not fair or just but solely an action to deteriorate community spirit by placing communities against each-other.

Moving the homestead to Broke, would have no historical significance, the name (Ravensworth) would mean nothing to the that village area. Is this robbery under arms for self-importance for a village of Broke where number of speakers discuss importance of coal, but we do not want it our backyard and the mining should continue in Ravensworth / Camberwell area, rather than respect of area of Ravensworth which has a history of early settlement and Aboriginal interactions and the importance it has to others of history and more importantly our heritage- not a tuck shop for Broke.

The other option a farm nearby, originally Ravensworth Estate was an agricultural portfolio. To move Ravensworth homestead to another area, potentially prone to impacts of flooding is not recommended and more importantly to take away the historical value from others for a mine is not justifiable for future generations.

Take the case of Bowman's property where the Inn components were moved into the homestead but when it came to heritage the only considered heritage was the original foundation alongside the New England highway was protected.

Therefore, the homestead left in the position as is has more economically value for heritage and future prosperity of the area as an agricultural interest or even tourism. The value is far greater than a hole in a ground, continual health and safety issues related a final void, water contamination and more important than unpleasant eye saw left behind by mining.

