

My name is Betty Pickering. My daughter and family have been living at Kings Plains for 25 years, and unfortunately within close proximity of the proposed mine site.

They have a beautiful home on 200 acres where they breed beef cattle. For many years now I have been aware of the affects they have had to endure due to the uncertainty of their futures. I live in Sydney now but ring my daughter twice a week. Many times she is in tears, when I ask "is there any news on the mine?"

It is gut wrenching for me to witness her suffering, she doesn't want to upset me however I know she suffers many sleepless nights with her depression. My daughter has a lovely family, 2 children and grandchildren who regularly spend time on the weekends at the farm.

All their lives will change if this development is allowed to proceed, I am scared for their futures. Apparently there are 85 families in this predicament. I cannot believe this can happen. Surely this site is not appropriate for a mining development.