

Wallarrah 2 coal mine

I have major objections

Subsidence

Several metres of subsidence is an undisputed conclusion in the impact report.

The drop in the level of our land topology is of major concern.

We (my elderly father) brought property with sufficient dams and water supply to live on the edge of a hanging valley, we do not feel confident we will not slide into a growing swamp because of this activity. Any compensation can be tedious with no real justice againsts the damagers suffered in many ways including emotionally and environmentally.

Earthquake

Human induced earthquake is now well documented. The scientific, peer reviewed reference is <http://inducedearthquakes.org/> . Our Central Coast, Hunter area has history as referenced with 4 events. I especially note the Newcastle earthquake of 1989 that caused death and major destruction with a magnitude 5.6 earthquake induced. Sure engineers have learned from mistakes with long wall techniques but no serious geologist can guarantee that any natural earth tremors will not induce further impact as a result of mining and the hole created.

Water

Subsidence means cracking the geo layers.

Water will disappear and return to the surface polluted.

The assumption that the mega hole created below the valley will be innocuous indefinitely is stretching the current understanding of the sciences of geology and water dynamics.

Fresh water will be compromised for the central coast and our local environment into the distant future.

Coal Dust in Transit

Trains mean dust and coal dust watered down run off. That is more pollution.

The dust will contribute to health issues on the coast.

Climate change and sea level rise

This change will increase pressure on the excavation vacuum in the mine.

Coastal erosion will be exasperated as raised sea level coalesce with the hinterland that is linked to our lakes not far from the proposed mine. This consideration is not considered in the environmental impact statement at all.

Our property on the edge of the under ground mining and is just 20 meters above sea level on the west side.

Transferred risk

Us, the local residents will be left to face the above mentioned problems along with others not mentioned here.

The state can not compensate for this environmental damage.

The state can not compensate for reduced land usability and its local citizens in a meaningful way.

The state continues to support mining in unreasonable circumstances. When miners are unable to meet environmental standards but are given opportunity to stress out the locals every time a minor change is made to the application by them, something is wrong.

I would like to leave something for my Grand Children and the future Australian generations.

There is no win for the state, or locals in this proposal! It should have been dismissed by the state out of hand without extended inconvenience for the local citizens.

Andrew Thomson 2/11/2017