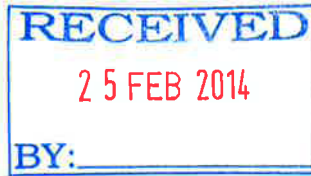


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DATE: 18-2-2014



TO WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN, DEAR SIR OR MADAM,

I AM WRITING THIS LETTER TO YOU TO LET YOU KNOW ABOUT MY CONCERNS OF STAGE 2 AT MOOLARBEN MINE BEING APPROVED.

CONCERN ONE: NOISE

IS THE NOISE CREATED FROM MOOLARBEN MINES. AT TIMES IT IS UNBEARABLE AND WAKES ME UP A COUPLE OF TIMES A NIGHT. WHEN THIS HAPPENS I CANNOT FUNCTION PROPERLY THE NEXT DAY BECAUSE OF SLEEP DEPRIVATION.

NEARLY 27 MONTHS AGO NOW MY HUSBAND WAS TRAGICALLY KILLED ON OUR PROPERTY BY A FALLING TREE. THE REASON I AM MENTIONING MY HUSBAND IS BECAUSE FOR AT LEAST 18 MONTHS BEFORE HIS DEATH HE WAS CONTINUALLY COMPLAINING TO MOOLARBEN MINES ABOUT THE NOISE COMING FROM THERE, BECAUSE HE HAD THE SAME PROBLEM BEING WOKEN UP 2-3 TIMES A NIGHT FROM THE NOISE OF HEAVY MACHINERY. IT WAS THAT BAD MY HUSBAND EVEN KNEW WHAT MACHINE WAS MAKING THE NOISE AND HE JUST COULD NOT SLEEP MOST OF THE TIME WHICH CAUSED HIM TO BE VERY TIRED AT WORK EVERYDAY, WHICH I THINK ULTIMATELY CONTRIBUTED TO HIS DEATH.

MOOLARBEN MINES SAY THEY MONITOR THE NOISE LEVELS AND SAY THEY ARE WITHIN THE GUIDE LINES, THAT THEY MONITOR ON ULAN ROAD ETC. ULAN ROAD IS THE MAIN ROAD AT THE FRONT OF MY PROPERTY BUT THE NOISE TRAVEL'S UP THE BACK AND SIDE OF MY PROPERTY NOT THE FRONT. TRAFFIC NOISE TRAVELS FROM THE FRONT OF THE PROPERTY. MY PROPERTY IS APPROXIMATELY 7 KLMS FROM MOOLARBEN MINES AND AT TIMES I CANNOT HAVE A WINDOW OR BACK

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HEAR THE SOUND OF VEHICLES REVERSING AND SOUNDS LIKE SOMEONE IS DRIVING UP THE SIDE OF MY PROPERTY, WHICH I KNOW THEY CANNOT DO UNLESS THEY CUT MY FENCES.

THEN WE HAVE THE TRAFFIC NOISE COMING FROM ULAN ROAD FROM ALL THE SMALL AND HEAVY VEHICLES THAT TRAVEL ULAN ROAD NOW TO GET TO THE MINES, WHICH WE WERE TOLD WHEN THE MINES FIRST OPENED THAT THE MINERS ETC WOULD TRAVEL ON ANOTHER ROAD AND NOT ULAN ROAD, BUT OF COURSE THAT DID NOT HAPPEN.

ON A HOT SUMMERS NIGHT IF YOU HAVE A WINDOW OPEN, YOU ARE WOKEN UP AROUND 5-5-30 A.M EACH MORNING BY THE SOUND OF THE TRAFFIC TRAVELLING TO THE MINES AND BELIEVE ME IT IS A LOT OF VEHICLES GOING PAST. I DO NOT BEGRUDGE PEOPLE WORKING BUT HONESTLY THESE NOISE CONDITIONS ARE UNBEARABLE, ESPECIALLY THE MINE NOISES GOING ALL NIGHT LONG AND EARLY SUNDAY MORNINGS AND IT WILL ONLY GET WORSE ONCE STAGE 2 IS APPROVED.

CONCERN TWO: THE DUST SITUATION:

THIS IS A REALLY SERIOUS MATTER AS WELL BECAUSE I HAVE BLACK DUST ALL OVER EVERYTHING ON MY BACK VERANDAH. IT HAS BEEN LIKE THAT AND ON MY SKIRTING BOARDS INSIDE THE HOUSE SINCE BEFORE MY HUSBAND PASSED AWAY. I AM FOREVER CLEANING THE DUST AND IT IS BLACK DUST NOT THE NORM. THE BLACK DUST CONCERNS ME GREATLY BECAUSE IT HAS TO BE SOME SORT OF HEALTH RISK BREATHING IN THIS BLACK DUST MOST OF THE TIME.

CONCERN THREE: FUMES:

THE FUMES YOU CAN SMELL AT TIMES FROM MACHINERY, GAS ETC IS ALSO ANOTHER HEALTH HAZARD. THESE MINING COMPANIES JUST MOVE IN SOMEWHERE, START MINING AND EXPECT PEOPLE TO PUT UP WITH INTOLERABLE CONDITIONS. THEY GET APPROVALS FROM GOVERNMENTS, EPA AUTHORITIES ETC WITHOUT WORRYING ABOUT THE PEOPLE WHO LIVE AND HAVE LIVED IN THE AREA FOR MANY YEARS BEFORE THEY CAME ALONG. IF THEY CHOOSE TO DO THAT THEN WHY DON'T THESE COMPANIES BUY THE PROPERTIES AFFECTED BY THESE CONDITIONS AND BEAR THE

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THEY START MINING SO PEOPLE DO NOT HAVE TO PUT UP WITH THESE TYPES OF CONDITIONS AND STRESS. IT WOULD MAKE IT A WHOLE LOT EASIER FOR EVERYONE CONCERNED- INSTEAD THEY DO WHAT THEY WANT TO AND QUIETEN THE NOISE LEVELS BY MOVING THE MACHINERY BACK FURTHER FOR A WHILE, WHILE THEY WAIT FOR APPROVAL TO EXPAND OPERATIONS OF THE MINE. THEY DID IT NOT LONG AGO, THEN ALL OF A SUDDEN IT ALL STARTED AGAIN. THEN EVERYTIME SOMEONE FROM THE MINES CONTACTS ME THEY JUST KEEP SAYING THE SAME OLD STORY AGAIN AND AGAIN, THAT THEY ARE IN THE GUIDE LINES AND THAT IS IF THEY CONTACT YOU AT ALL.

I HAVE DOCUMENTATION ON THE COMPLAINTS I HAVE MADE TO THE EPA PLUS THE ONE'S MADE BY MY HUSBAND BEFORE HIS PASSING. ALL OF THESE CONDITIONS WE PUT UP WITH 24/7 WILL BECOME MUCH WORSE ONCE STAGE 2 GETS APPROVAL, THEREFORE I THINK THEY SHOULD NOT BE APPROVED UNTIL THEY HAVE CONDITIONS SET TO BUY OUT THE PROPERTY OF THOSE AFFECTED BY THE MINES. ONCE THEY CUT THROUGH THE MOUNTAIN BEHIND MY PROPERTY THEN I WILL HAVE NO PROTECTION AT ALL AGAINST THE CONDITIONS I SPEAK OF NOW.

CONCERN FOUR: BLASTING:

THE BLASTING OCCURS REGULARLY AND IT IS GETTING CLOSER ALL THE TIME. THE GROUND SHAKES, IT SCARES MY COWS AND I HAVE A LOT OF TREE'S THAT ONCE WERE STRAIGHT ARE NOW ON A LEAN AND LEANING MORE AND MORE ALL THE TIME. I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT THIS TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LEANING TREE'S BECAUSE OF GROUND MOVEMENT FROM THE BLASTING AND HEAVY THUMPING OF ENORMOUS MACHINERY.

THEREFORE I ASK THAT YOU SERIOUSLY CONSIDER ALL OF THESE MATTERS BEFORE APPROVING THE SECOND STAGE OF THE MOOLARBEN COAL MINES PROJECT.

THANKING YOU
G. SZYMKARCZUK