[redacted]

To whom it may concern,

I find myself yet again sitting and writing another letter of concern about the Springvale Mine debacle. I am not going to state statistics and rights and wrongs, I am simply going to speak from the heart about a community that I have lived in for more than 35 years.

The community that I live is a very generous community that always open their hearts and wallets when someone is in need. Fundraising for someone in need – not a problem. Helping your next-door neighbour – not a problem. Supporting your community – NOT A PROBLEM.

I can walk down the street and say hello and talk to community members, adults and children alike.

Now we are finding that people in the community are under stress and not knowing what is happening from day to day. Many people employed in the coalmines and power station, are very unsure about their job security.

The only problem is that the job insecurity is now reaching further into the community. This problem will have a snowballing effect on the wider community:

- If the men at Springvale lose their jobs,
- Then the power station may lose their jobs,
- These men then will be forced to leave the community, as there are limited jobs available here.
- This then means that they will take their families,
- Children leaving schools,
- Partners leaving jobs.
- Their jobs not being filled as there is not as many people in the community.

The community as whole will suffer. THIS IS A PROBLEM. I like my community. I like my job as a teacher. I like my friends and family close by. I like knowing that I have a job.

Please consider the effects on the wider community when making a decision about the Springvale Mine. It is not just 300 men… but a whole community.

Thank you
Samantha Bodnar

25.9.2015