

Good Afternoon, I am Jonathan Drady

I am a primary producer & reside at [REDACTED] Bedgerabong, approximately 10km East of the borefields intended to be used by the proponent.

I, along with my young family operate a full-crop farm enterprise that sustainably grows wheat, canola and chickpeas, which in average annual production can supply enough carbohydrate & protein to sustain 17,000 human souls annually, or put another way – 6.2 million people for one day each year. So, with some 20 other farmers speaking here today – we are collectively speaking as a group with the power to feed 124 million people today, or alternatively provide fibres that constitute a portion of all the garments we, along with millions of others are all wearing today.

Let it be known that I support this development & acknowledge the broad social & economic benefits that will enhance the regions prosperity. My concerns relating to this project pertain to the borefields & the effects it will have on my, and neighbours properties.

My properties, and neighbours in the vicinity of the borefields have currently, as have always been, are blessed with ample supplies of good quality bore water for stock and domestic purposes. Indeed, some neighbours operate irrigation bores also. Access to such resources has been an asset of immense value for our properties, and is never more apparent than in dry time like the present – both in its ability to provide water to livestock & wildlife & also provide domestic water for sanitary purposes in addition to some amenity around our homesteads in the form of something green – a lawn or garden – a great mini escape for mental sanctity in a seemingly inescapable bleak brown outlook in times of drought.

I must admit that, due to my preoccupations I feel I have been somewhat blindsided by the development of both the Syerston (now Sunrise) and borefields to supply it. At the time of the original development applications, I was merely a fledgling adult and more concerned in other things, and trying to make sense of the world, whilst finding ways I could continue to make a positive contribution to it.

My current oblivion has been more due to the flood of red-tape I have to wade through to run an ethical, law abiding enterprise. As such, I can empathise with the plight of a mining company & its many employees that have to navigate much of this red-tape themselves.

I am beginning to understand the red-tape has been ever increasing and necessary due to our laws and society diverting further and further away from ethical & moral standards and behaviour, the bed-rock upon which is to look out for and promote your aspirations, but NEVER do so in a way that compromises another individual or group – and ESPECIALLY NEVER exploit a helpless minority!

The modus operandi seems to have become smoke & mirror-like, where public campaigns are designed to build the perception of seemingly credible, palatable values & outcomes to the majority, whilst the truth at times is vastly different.

It is here today, with a chance to speak & hopefully be heard, where I see a glimmer of hope for those who stand to be to some degree disrupted or disadvantaged by this development.

Extraction of large amounts of bore water over a sustained period are simply alarming, and may permanently degrade this aquifer & its precious resource. As a near neighbour of the proponents borefields, I seek to have the compensatory re-instatement of water clause returned, along with real-time monitoring of their borefields & selected neighbours irrigation bores to ensure this resource isn't damaged & depleted neither during, nor after the mines lifespan. With such an

approach, I cannot see as to what is to be lost by the proponent, as to monitor & protect the aquifer is to protect their investment in mining infrastructure & operations which depend on the water supply & its reliability & sustainability.

Equally troubling is the removal of the “voluntary acquisition” clause & several comments today that assert; “All will benefit from this” – NO!, there is a minority that may suffer & they are just seeking a safeguard. Grant us these safeguards & any resistance to the development will morph into rapturous support.

Another troubling musing today has been “the past is in agriculture, the future is in mining”. This disregards the very beginnings of our district where mining and agriculture have co-existed since the gold-rush days. I would expect that without agriculture the mine would be the last thing on anyones agenda – food & clothing is a need, whilst the possible economic prosperity resulting from the mine is merely a ‘want’. Without the perseverance of agriculture, I wonder, just what would become of our region once the mines are finished?

We can have it all, all that needs to go back in are the protections for the minority that may be negatively affected, one way or another by the CleanTeq Sunrise proposal.

Please do more that just hear our concerns, and please implement the required amendments including trigger levels, so that all parties move forth in unison with unequivocal support for each other, and lets get this region kicking even stronger,

Thanks for hearing me today.