

I am a farmer / grazier and half owner of [REDACTED]. I have some serious concerns with the Sunrise Nickel Mod4 Development Application.

Why has the Voluntary Acquisition been removed? This was the only insurance that the property neighbours of the mine site and the bore field people had, if a major problem developed, after the project has commenced. The landowners are only small fry in the big financial picture of the mine. This is a democratic country where supposedly all peoples rights are equal. Give us back our safety net. We do not wish to lose our clean, green farming image, nor lose the valuation of our properties if we are forced to sell.

I have personally asked on three occasions for the chemical equations and molar strengths that will be used in the IN THE CHEMICAL FACTORY, that will be located at the mine site. So far the general public has only been advised in general word terms, the inputs and outputs of the chemical treatments that will occur in the mine extraction. If we do not know:-

1. What chemicals are being used and their molar strengths?
2. What are the by-products and the gases that will be released into the atmosphere?
3. What volumes and concentrations of gaseous emissions will be released?
4. How can we know when the safety limits have been breached? Will these monitor readings be available to the general public and how often will these monitors be read?
5. If breaches occur what emergency procedures will be put in place?

Another concern is the lack of a meteorological station on the actual mine site. Using Condobolin as a data site is very disturbing for its accuracy. The mine site and the Condobolin meteorological station are approximately 90 metres different in altitude and also the surrounding topography affects the localised weather conditions. Considering the mine has had more than four years to establish a weather station. Why has it not done so?

I live at Derriwong and our main farm location is two properties away from the campsite. It is far more windy at Glen Echo with the number of windy days, the strength of the wind and the direction of the wind, than at Derriwong. Derriwong has the same altitude as Condobolin weather station.

Taking only the 2015 weather records as a standard to base all monitoring stations and distances from the mine site is far too narrow. Why not take 2016 when our annual rainfall was 900 mls or 2017 when the annual rainfall was 407 mls? These were taken from rainfall records at Glen Echo woolshed. Our rainfall is very variable, and rainfall is only one aspect of a locations weather. More information is needed.

In the Mod4 application under the section Incident Reporting No 8, the mine has seven days to report any hazard or accident to the local councils. I am sorry BUT local landholders and people living in Fifield, so close to the mine site, should immediately be made aware of any accident or hazard, especially in regards to the chemical factory. Many of the chemicals used in the extraction ore process are deadly and extremely poisonous to humans, animals and plant life. We as farmers produce food and fibre for human and animal consumption.

Murrin Murrin in Western Australia is a similar mine and plant to Sunrise. There are no towns located within 100 km of the mine and the mine insists that the campsite must be 8km from the mine and chemical extraction plant. Why? I just hope that serious consideration be given to the monitoring of gases given out by the smoke stack and to the water quality. Local people should have regular health checks (because of exposure) paid for by the mine.

Has the Meat and Livestock Authority (MLA) been advised of this mine and plant as to what biosecurity should be taken to assess the safety of all farm product produced in the area? This area produces fat lambs, beef, pigs and feeds for these type of animals. Contamination of these livestock could have a serious implication on the viability and livelihood of farmers in the area. This is another reason for Voluntary Acquisition to be reinstated in Mod 4.

Under Rehabilitation, Point 55, Table 10, Agriculture. What is the timeframe for use of grazing areas (especially tail water areas) for grazing of livestock? Has MLA been notified? What is their input and considerations of how these dams should be rehabilitated and when or if stock should be allowed to graze on this site?

Under the Water Management Plan. Section C. There are no considerations and protection measures or locations mentioned of local springs in area. On our property Glen Echo we have 7 springs which supply watering points for stock. One particular spring is highly valued because during the 1982 / 1983 drought when other dams had dried up it watered 880 sheep and 45 cattle. These springs are very valuable asset to our farming operation. If we were to lose these springs it would be a great loss to us financially reducing the value of the properties and causing hardship in times of drought. By speaking to some of our neighbours, springs are located at:-

<b>Property</b>	<b>No of Springs</b>
Glen Echo/Spring Vale/Moorfield	7
Belmont	1
Lara	2 soaks
Mt Herring	1
Brooklyn	2
Box Dale	1
Euligal	1
The Mines	3
Bon Accord	1 soak
Merrilands	2

Have stock and domestic bores been mapped in the mine site area? What provision has been made for loss of water regarding springs or bore? The company should be responsible for the transportation of water for stock and domestic use within 24 hours, because stock can die within 24 hours from dehydration, especially in summer.

In the mine site locality the spring and bore water aquifers need to be researched and mapped, so they will not be affected by the mine. Water samples and testing for contamination needs to be included. Water is the most limiting factor for our farming business.

Under Section Auditing, Section 10, the mine is to be audited every three years once it is in production. Local neighbours should be consulted if there are any problems so these can be brought to the attention of the mine and the auditing committee so that solutions can be worked on.

As owners of Glen Echo Pastoral Co the mines gas line has been mapped going through Springvale. We have NOT signed or given permission for this to occur. The company has not approached us verbally or by correspondence for over 18 months. Without more consultation and consideration to us, we will not give permission for the gas line to proceed through our property.

I am not opposed to the mine itself, but I am greatly concerned about the chemical factory, its input, products and by-products. There seems to be a secrecy surrounding the information being withheld by the mining company. They are not transparent. Many of the issues and fears held by the local community have been hidden in bureaucratic red tape. Why has the general public been unaware of the chemical treatment of the ore refinery on site at Fifield? Most people think that it is only a mine extracting ore from the ground. The chemical dangers, noise, dust, transport have not been stated or transparent in the company's PR advertising and at the general meetings. When asked for specific answers to questions, answers are given in general terms, ignored, or in hard legal terminology that most people have difficulty understanding.

In conclusion I hope the mine WILL listen to the fears and concerns of the local people. The company need to act positively towards implementing safe procedures and treating local people with respect for our concerns. We need transparency so we know what will happen, that we will not be adversely affected health wise and financially incapacitated. We do not wish to fear the development of this mine.

Thank you for the opportunity to discuss my concerns.

Terrie L'Estrange

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