

Hello my name is Eric Hannan and this is my wife Carol.

My wife and I wish to thank you (the IPC) for this opportunity to put forward the impacts that our family are going to be faced with if the Vickery Extension goes ahead in its current form.

We own [REDACTED] for 24 years we have been building this for our retirement and now they want to bring a railway line right across us it is a sheer disgrace that they want to do this. This railway on Kurrumbede is about 4 kilometers along our river and that is across a creek and then they are going to turn and go across a flood plain which is a kilometer and then across the river and another kilometer across a flood plain and then six and a half meters up to go across the road, then they come to our house and tell us we are not going to hear it or see it. Ladies and gentlemen, we can hear cars going along the road which is further away.

As for the water, we have it in writing it is not going to be more than 3 millimeters higher upstream in a flood if they have a blockage this is a lie they can't predict it as every flood is different and I am telling you that people upstream will have water that they never had before. They haven't been here we have worked on Kurrumbede for 43 years.

At Emerald Hill Hall we had them come out there and tell us they would bring an expert out to explain to us or ask us about the flood plains I have been here for 46 years they never came near us and Grant McIlveen is second generation and they never went near him and you have got James Barlow he is the same second generation and they never came near him now where the hell did this expert go to the Park View Hotel.

This is the sort of rubbish they come out and tell you it is just wrong. The Kamilaroi Highway near town where they cross the road, this is the coal that falls off their covered trucks on to our highway and cars do they care? Not a bit. Can you see the guide post there it is as black as the bitumen you can't see nothing on it not even a reflector, can you see the white lines? No you can't, I took these photos in the drought ever since that day they have had Daracon watering the road, when they water the road down you get wet black sludge on your car sometimes you even have to turn your windscreen wipers on. We can't trust them with 400 meters how the hell can we trust them with 6 kilometers along our river it's just wrong.

Dorothy Mackellar the poetry writer her father owned Kurrumbede, we have a brass stature of her in town, and my god she would turn in her grave if she knew that we were going to turn this into a dirty great black hole. They have five other mines in the area why do they need to dig up Kurrumbede.

Andrew Boyd Charlton one of the world swimmers in the 20s he held the most medals for one person right up until 1960. There is a room out here that he lived in when he was working here for 6 years, it's got a wash hand basin and

cupboard on the wall I have photos of this now the last people that had this place was Coalworks and they were going to pick this building up and take it into town and give to the Gunnedah Rural Museum for heritage, this lot will just bulldoze it down they don't care about it. We have to stop them.

As for Kurrumbede house they have put it in writing that they were going to keep the house in better condition than the last people that occupied it, that is a load of rubbish because I know for a fact that when Coalworks owned it, there were 2 people here looking after it we mowed the lawns and trimmed the hedges and watered the whole place trimmed the roses and fruit trees and grape vines, have a look at it now there is no fruit trees left and the hedges are as high as the gutters on the house and as for the grape vines they are all gone there is no lawns there is not even any entrance into the house anymore most of the trees are dead, there used to be a trellis out here covered in wisteria you could park your car under in the shade all day it has just all been demolished, they haven't even started the coal and they are wrecking the whole show they don't care about one little bit of it.

As for where the train line is supposed to go there will be no fish no birds and no koalas because they can't run up to 10 trains in 24 hours and not create a problem of course it is going to create a problem.

We have told them that if a horse gets out with the lights shining across the top of them and the noise of the trains if it gets onto the road and happens to kills someone in a car than what! it's too late than isn't it, we have asked Whitehaven to be relocated with the same as we have here but they don't care a stuff about any us, so let's stand up and fight because Kurrumbede is one of the nicest places that you have ever seen and there shouldn't be any digging on it and there definitely should not be a railway line coming across it and if they think that I am going to live under a railway line think again.

We have had Whitehaven representatives approach us where we live and ask to sign what is basically a gagging order and proceeded in saying that we won't be affected by any of these projects operations.

We are willing to sit down and work out an agreement for relocation with Whitehaven and have a Confidentiality Clause in that agreement.

But Whitehaven own documentation in regard to noise generated by this Vickery Extension in which they have supplied to us states; " For other-owned receivers to the west and south-west, maxim predicted noise levels would result in exceedances of the evening and night-time Project-specific noise trigger levels at two additional properties (properties 131 and 132).

Property 132 that Whitehaven has referred to is OUR HOME AND OUR LIVELIHOOD

Given the EPA has noise monitoring results that shows the Whitehaven Maules Creek Coal Mine has exceeded their worst-case noise prediction anywhere up to

30% or higher. It begs the question what is Whitehaven telling you (IPC). It seems not truth otherwise I wouldn't be here today.

Thank you, Ladies and gentlemen.