

Good afternoon,

My name is Errol Darley and I'm talking on behalf of the Boggabri Farming and Community Group.

This is the group most affected by this proposal, having everything to lose and nothing to gain. Department numbers show that if you live within 2km of the rail spur and up to 10km from the proposed mine 31 objected, 2 supported and 2 commented.

When looking at the map showing the dwelling locations, it appears that the CHPP, rail and infrastructure has been moved and now affects the most number of dwellings, 22 in total. Was this move necessary? So, it is assured that the proposal is going to change the lives of those near it, just as it has at Maules Creek and Werris Creek. The number of objectors are reduced because of confidentiality agreements.

We are now towards the end and of the second day of hearings and I have yet to hear one, not one person who supports this proposal who actually live on the flood plain or near the mine. It's easy to support a proposal that doesn't physically affect you and when you financially benefit.

Firstly EL7407. Is this a legitimate EL or does it have Obeid and McDonalds fingerprints all over it? Is this a legal document?

Can the IPC panel investigate how did the proponent obtain a 600ml porous rock licence and did they actually pay for it?

Let's examine the impacts of noise and dust. How can this mine have reduced noise when it is larger than the first mine, has a CHPP moved closer to dwellings and a rail loop with associated locomotive flanging and wheel squeal noise? Whether observations in December 2018 show gusts from the South East to North East as following, 4th 43km per hour, 5th 78km per hour, 6th 35km per hour 7th 43km per

hour, 8th 30km per hour, 10th 39km per hour and 11th 48km per hour. Does Whitehaven really believe that our members won't be affected by noise and dust during these meteorological conditions? Where is the (noise management plan) so we can see what mitigation, Whitehaven will conduct. Whitehaven has provided their own wind data for this proposal. Maybe this explains why no one will be affected by noise or dust. The accuracy of this information needs to be reassessed.

A independent noise assessment says that members will be affected by noise from the railway line with flanging, wheel squeal and the elevation of the track raising noise levels above Whitehaven's estimates Also if the CHPP is not to exceed maximise noise levels it needs to be constructed with 'Good quality full double skin, enclosed enclosure design, with minimal openings' , this is not included in the EIS.

The positioning of the 10 holes bore field is intriguing. Rather than using any one of 3 existing bores, 10inch in diameter with an 8inch pvc liner, test pumped and close to the proposed CHPP, why go all the way to the North to obtain the water? The answer is that they wish to dewater this area, those at Maules Creek and Werris creek will tell you nobody dewateres better than Whitehaven. So once dewatered a underground mine possibly with a long wall miner will be installed to remove the 4meter thick coal seam which is reported in this area. In this area, the Permian rock formation is deeper, overlayed with Quaternary sediment. The long wall miner from Narrabri underground may just be used for this purpose. Now if Whitehaven have the rail access approved under this proposal, then they will control or monopolies who can financial tender for any EL s released in the future. They already own the land. My point is because of Whitehaven's infrastructure presence the people of NSW who own the coal will get a much small price for it, as no mining company will try and compete with Whitehaven. So the solution is for the state Government to build a rail spur over the gap to the

North which can be done because they can compulsory acquire the land. Then charge Whitehaven a dollar a tonne for Vickery coal rail access and its paid for, then every other tonne of coal transported on the line will be profit for the people of NSW. This is also the reason why they won't commit to dismantling the rail spur, as they know that they will be using it after Vickery. They have moved the CHPP plant so it is not built on land that may be subject to subsidence. Some say Tarrawonga and Vickery will join one day, and it's common knowledge that coal is under the Vickery forest.

So I ask you commissions to ensure a meeting be held with the Department of minerals and energy, and the Department of planning so a future plan can be formulated to benefit the coal owners, us, the residents of NSW.

The over burden material, when placed on the western escarpment creates a huge risk of being washed into the Namoi river during storm events. Whitehaven only has to capture 38mm of rainfall over 5 days. This will easily be exceeded when rainfall patterns return to normal. The Independent Expert Scientific Committee also asked for ground water testing to also include boron, copper, lead, antimony, tin, zinc, silver, cobalt, nickel and mercury. It is noted that levels of aluminium, molybdenum and arsenic are elevated in other Whitehaven dams. This water may potentially be discharged into the Namoi river.

Members are sceptical that this proposal may already be a done deal. Construction of the Gunnedah rail over pass, current Breeza rail construction, Scone and Singleton highway bypass are all indicators that planning for increased coal tonnage down the rail main line is very advanced. Locally, land access agreements and a whisper of land purchase discussions only add to our disbelief. So please, are we being told the truth?

It gives me no joy to explain why Whitehaven has lost its social license. By now you have heard numerous talks about the affect Whitehaven has inflicted on honest landholders, who have had to go to extremes to try and protect their property right and a right to occupy. My personal experience is a use to speak favourably of coal mining, and even stopped at the protest outside the Gunnedah CHPP to give the protestors a mouthful, as much to the disgust of my youngest daughter. However, I have since learnt they have lied to many members of our group, denied any wrong doing at Werris and Maules Creek and pushed landholders to brink of depression during land acquisition applications. They have sent toxic clouds of blast gasses over the elderly and dusted the Fairfax school. Their tactic is to deny everything upfront and then hide behind a peer reviewed model for acquittal. How grown men can be so reckless with the truth and constantly lie to a community is inapprehensible. And then they tried the intimidate a senior gentleman of our community who just happens to be a good friend of mine and members of this group. So those who make money out of Whitehaven reluctantly embrace them, but anyone who happens to be in their way are bullied into submitting. Boggabri has received very little benefit from this company, and the landholders of the group are fearful of the negotiation process they may have to endure or the lifestyle they will be left with. The revolving door at their employment office where I believe a 50% turnaround of employee a year is common place. This is testament of how they treat their employees.

The scam wouldn't be complete without a \$30,000 donation to the Liberal Party and over 4 million performance share rights for the CEO of the company.

There are no reasons to support this extension. Whitehaven have betrayed our trust. this proposal should be unanimously rejected.