



George and Stephanie Carvin

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Dear Professor Lipman

As land owners of prime agricultural land in Blairmore Lane Aberdeen for over fifty years we wish to lodge an objection against the re-opening of, and varying the terms of, Dartbrook mine and its operations, especially the eventual possibility of open cut mining.

When Dartbrook originally, was in operation... run by Anglo Coal, it was unable to prevent gas, spontaneous combustion and flooding of the mine and other water issues.

During that time the underground water, accessed by farmers around the mine for their agricultural pursuits, dairying, irrigation, stock water, house water etc dropped to such an extent that the wells on the river flats went dry and irrigation was curtailed. In an area which boasts ten (10m) metres of some of the most fertile top soil in the world - only a handful of other areas in the world are in this class, bearing in mind most areas of Australia have soil depths of less than thirty centimetres. The area of Aberdeen farm-land close to Dartbrook grows lucerne for hay to keep the horse industry, dairying and graziers supplied with top quality clean nutritious feed.

Should the mine be re-opened the water problems, which were resolved as soon as Dartbrook closed,

will again impact anyone relying on underground water for their livelihood.

If the mine becomes an open-cut enterprise the prevailing westerly winds will spread dust, gases and odours eastward over the farms and the towns of Aberdeen and Muswellbrook and the easterly winds will affect Scone's air quality, making the area even more unhealthy for anyone with breathing issues and the coal dust will affect the quality of anything grown on the river flats.

The horse studs will also be adversely affected, with animals millions of dollars put at risk. The Area is already over invested in mining and when the resources are exhausted the economy of the area will collapse. IF we can't keep our farms, horse studs, dairies, hay production and towns viable and prospering.

If a top-tier mining company couldn't make Dartbrook safe, problem free and functioning within the development agreement how can an untried, inexperienced and under resourced enterprise turn it around without more problems impacting the communities around it, along the way?

It's unconscionable to jeopardise the health, safety, wellbeing, productivity, life style and wealth of such a productive agricultural area to reinstate such a problematic mine.

Enough is enough and Dartbrook is one mine too many

Yours faithfully