

Submission
No 856

INQUIRY INTO COAL SEAM GAS

Name: Name suppressed

Date received: 13/09/2011

Partially Confidential

Submission regarding Mining in Southern Highlands.

I am a private citizen but would very much like to make a brief submission to the Senate.

You will have many submissions from organisations. This is a slightly different submission from a more personal position.

Simply, to allow mining and a mine head near a community and country town would be irresponsible:

At the mine head would be a massive dump of coal/ dirt brought up from underground. This would be in open air. It would as it has done in the Hunter region transform the landscape into a horror.

Along with this the highlands are well known for their wind. It is mostly from southwest and the west and so this would blow coal dust over the whole region especially the town of Moss Vale.

The coal must also be transported to the coast - this massive proposed tonnage would mean extra noise and pollution over a potential 24 hours a day.

My partner has lived in Newcastle and has seen this at first hand.

I would like the committee to (as well as look at aquifers and rural land issues) please look into the effects , both in health and safety for the effected communities , and the historical (if any as these companies seem to just appear overnight) performance and work practices.

Please also take into account that the company's only responsibility is to their shareholders.

That means the people - whom you represent - and who vote you in - have to trust in you, the committee, to protect them.

Regards