

Submission
No 185

**INQUIRY INTO CURRENT AND POTENTIAL IMPACTS OF
GOLD, SILVER, LEAD AND ZINC MINING ON HUMAN
HEALTH, LAND, AIR AND WATER QUALITY IN NEW
SOUTH WALES**

Name: Name suppressed

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Partially
Confidential

I have worked in mining and gas for the last 20 years, including two years on a remote zinc/lead mine (nobody had a high lead read the entire time I was there).

Mining is all that stands between us and the Stone Age. A cleaner future depends on ethically mined materials.

The "right mine, wrong place" line implies that some land is less worthy of respect than other land. All land should be treated with equal respect, regardless of its agricultural value or where it is. All mines - and industry, including agriculture - should operate to the same high standards when it comes to protecting health and the environment.

Australia is moving towards a mindset where people - particularly the environmental lobby - are not willing to tolerate the production of metals they consume enthusiastically and in large amounts.

I want a cleaner future but not off the backs of child miners in developing countries or at the expense of the environment in poorly-regulated countries. We need to produce those things in Australia and do it well.