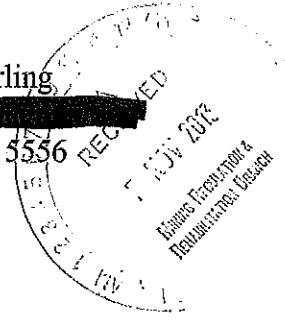


Mr Mark Howe  
Mining Regulations & Rehabilitation  
DMITRE  
GPO Box 1264,  
Adelaide.SA.5001.

Mrs Kaye Darling

Wallaroo.SA. 5556



Dear Sir,

Please, let me firstly introduce myself, as Kaye Darling, retired. Wife of a former Area Manager of Bank SA. Also, daughter of the late R.H.Dunsford, farmer in the mid north at Redhill. Currently a Volunteer Announcer on Community Radio Gulf FM, based in Kadina, on Yorke Peninsula.

I wish to advise of my strong opposition to the opening of a mine at Hillside, near Ardrossan on Yorke Peninsula, and any future mines on the Peninsula, which would be detrimental to cereal farming, in this rich food belt.

I admit that I have no expertise in this field, but have a passionate interest in sustaining our agricultural areas for future food sources, knowing the predicted population growth over the next 20-30 years.

Our family have always had a great interest in the land. Grandfather T.H.Dunsford along with Edgar Russell, was involved in the introduction of bulk handling here in SA. My uncle, J.R.Dunsford, was Director of Lands many years ago, and, along with my two sisters and a young brother ( who now owns the farm ) were involved in the day to day running of said farm, with our parents.

It is my belief, that mining has a place, but not to allow these Mining Companies to invade the rich cereal belts on the Yorke Peninsula, and also the Eyre Peninsula, and to "rape" the land for a few short years, then leave the communities to wear the consequences! Australia is a vast country with great mineral wealth, so why must this impose on established communities and our food source? Oh, of course!! Nearby, ready made roads, water resources etc which helps the infrastructure! If they have so much money, take it out to the more remote areas, and let them put in the infrastructure from the ground floor!

We "own" the land, or at least the top inches, but, really, we are here as custodians of this beautiful land that God has given us. To work, and preserve for future generations! Let us very carefully, be mindful of this very fact!

So many issues must be weighed very carefully, before allowing this venture to go ahead! The cost to the surrounding land; dust contamination; underground water; soil salination; ugly visual; noise pollution; short term gain to the detriment of generations of farming in a rich food belt, which will be lost forever! Increasing health issues, from the dust pollution (I know this for a fact, as experienced this, along with many, when the Copper Cove Marina was being built! ); the effects on stock when this sight is lit up like Luna Park! Coastal, sea bed & marine life. Damage to the soil from use of saline water when keeping dust down; Tourism.  
The list could go on and on!

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Water salinity should be a big consideration. We know that the water from the proposed site will have a very high content, and even though I had it explained to me that this would be piped out to sea and go through a process to refine said water, and levels would be low before returning to the site to be used for dust control, excuse me, but who do they think they are kidding!! Ask any farmer about the salt problems on farms! In the soil, and also getting into underground water.

Our farm at Redhill was an example of saline soil! Many years ago, the then Woods & Forrest, and now CSRIO, rented a parcel of our land to grow experimental trees, to combat this very issue, and this farm is nowhere close to the coast! This was a 10 year process.

These Mining Companies can spin their stories, charm some farmers and communities, because yes , the idea of all these jobs, the injection of money into the communities and State coffers is very alluring, and to the naïve, it all sounds wonderful!

For the posterity of these rich food sources, on both Peninsulas, I implore you "LISTEN TO THE MAN ON THE LAND", their knowledge is invaluable. They know the land. Don,t be swayed by the promises of these big companies, who promise so much, but somehow once the door is opened to them, have a habit of not fulfilling their obligations. They will 'rape' the land, reap the benefits, then leave the communities to wear the consequences. Who will care? Not them, and not you, as you will probably be gone too, when the mine closes!!

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When I was young ( about 50 years ago ) I can still recall hearing the words of my Grandfather T.H.Dunsford saying "You mark my words girlie, one day, we will be serfs in this country of ours". How close to a truth is this becoming!! How sad!


Sir, if you have a conscience, I implore you to listen to the people. You may think they are an insignificant minority, but their knowledge is invaluable and may be the saving Grace of food sustainability for generations to come. Life is not all about the mighty dollar!!

Thank you for allowing me to share my opinion. One thing really beautiful about our wonderful country, Freedom of Speech!!

I would appreciate acknowledgement of this submission.

Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Kaye Darling.

  
c.c Minister Koutsontonis  
Minister Gail Gago