

Mr. Mark Howe  
Mining, Regulation and Rehabilitation Branch,  
Department for Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy,  
GPO Box 1264,  
Adelaide. 5001

Dear Mr. Howe,

**RE Rex Minerals' Mining Lease Proposal for the Hillside Copper Mine, Yorke Peninsula**

I, Colin Robert Davey, am aware of Rex Minerals' mining lease proposal to establish an open pit copper mine at Hillside on Yorke Peninsula near Pine Point. I understand that proposed mine will cover an area of approximately 3,000 hectares and will comprise: an open pit 2.4 kms long by 1 km wide by 450 metres deep; three waste rock piles, the highest reaching 115 metres; a large crushing, grinding facility; a flotation and magnetic separation processing plant; a large tailings dam to hold processing by-products; two 12 km pipelines to carry the ore concentrate to Ardrossan and return seawater to the mine; a filtration plant, storage sheds, water storage ponds and a seawater intake system at the port; major road realignments of the Yorke Highway and Minlaton turn-off.

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I wish to lodge my objection to this mine development proposal because of the following:

**Loss of prime agricultural land –**

I have witnessed the vegetation die off due to toxic dusts from the Iron Duke and Iron Baron mines. A neighbouring farmer to Iron Duke mine has ceased farming a portion of his land due to dust from the mine making it unviable.

The proposed mine is for 15 years – but we require food for hundreds of years.

The land on and around the proposed mine is some of the most reliable in the world – it is unthinkable that we could destroy/jeopardise this when the world is running short of food.

At the Iron Duke and Iron Baron mines damaging dust is dramatically degrading the land up to 25 km away and beyond. Agricultural land will be affected all the way to the centre of Yorke Peninsula and beyond, this is some of the best farming land in Australia.

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**Detrimental impact on tourism and associated loss of tourist dollars -**

Black Point, along with Rogues Point, James Well, Pine Point and Ardrossan are prime holiday spots and would be severely affected by the mine dust.

**Inappropriateness of locating a mine of this size in a populated rural area, within close proximity to towns and holiday settlements.**

How can anyone contemplate starting a mine of this size close to a highly populated area?

**Detrimental effect on people, crops and stock from exposure to hazardous dust. Health impacts associated with exposure to contaminated dust, constant noise, contaminated rain water tanks and sleep deprivation.**

After visiting farmers at Iron Duke we discovered that they no longer drink their collected rain water anymore as it was tested unsatisfactory by a Government Agency. The noise levels were also unacceptable and 24/7.

**Groundwater contamination and lowering of the water table  
Contamination of St Vincent's Gulf and its marine life**

Toxins will end up in the Gulf either by run-off or dust – this will be detrimental to the Marine Park. A mine of this size requires significant water resources – Yorke Peninsula and the wider state have a very limited water supply.

**Visual pollution**

Yorke Peninsula – Agriculturally rich, Naturally Beautiful – Lets keep it that way – no dirty and massive open-cut mines.

**Vibrations from blasting a least once every two days.**

**Inadequate provision for rehabilitation of mine site, resulting in long-term irreversible damage to environment.**

It will never be possible to return the soil to its present state.

**Risk that local community will be left with huge clean-up bill if the mine closes prematurely .**

**Devaluation of surrounding properties including agricultural land and coastal residences.**

A reduction in production will occur for generations - no realistic compensation will be given for this.

**Creation of hazardous road junction at proposed Minlaton diversion at Pine Point. Increased heavy vehicle traffic and road damage for the life of the mine.**

This area already has a high volume of holiday traffic, the proposed mine would lead to increased traffic risks.

**Lack of effective community consultation and transparency.**

Most voters in South Australia are not aware of the size of the proposed mine, the location and the negative affects such a mine would create. An extension for submissions to DMITRE until March was requested - an extension would have allowed greater awareness of the situation.

**At the public meeting held at Ardrossan Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October – no representation was made from Rex Minerals or the Minister for Mineral Resources and Energy – Tom Koutsantonis – both were invited.**

Farmers are now busy preparing for harvest, and have a minimum of time to share their concerns with the wider population.

**Detrimental impact on flora and fauna**

**We should not be contemplating a mine in such a productive, and highly populated area when these minerals can be sourced in less productive areas.**

I therefore petition DMITRE to disallow this proposal and I look forward to a favourable consideration of this submission.

Yours faithfully,

Signed

Colin Robert Davey

Address -

Kimba SA 5641

Phone -

Email -

Date - 3<sup>rd</sup> November, 2013