

Dean, Julie (DEM)

From: Lorraine Parsons <grumpy25@iinet.net.au> on behalf of parsons.lorraine1066@gmail.com
Sent: Thursday, 19 September 2019 8:12 AM
To: DEM:Mining Reg Rehab
Subject: Opposition to the Woodside Mine

To Whom it may Concern,

We lived in Nairne for almost 35 years and much of our lives for sport, recreation, work, social activities and tourism was centred in the Nairne/Woodside region. This is a particularly beautiful part of the Adelaide Hills, not over-developed for housing or industry; maintaining a sustainable rural environment.

It is with bitter disappointment and grave concern that Terramin Exploration Pty Ltd has expressed interest in mining for gold in the Bird-in-Hand locality as I feel that there will be adverse outcomes and have a long-term negative impact.

Although some people have spoken in support of the gold mine and Terramin Exploration Pty Ltd., I have first-hand personal experience of this company through a family member, as a land-owner, who was involved with them at Strathalbyn. It was a constant battle dealing with the mining company right from the inception.

Below are some facts which I have researched. It is the responsibility of the South Australian Government, through the Energy and Mining Department to not only weigh up the negative impacts of this project but also to listen to the community who will be directly impacted. In fact, anyone else who may have family, farms, work connections or love visiting this part of our State to visit the wineries, restaurants or other tourist attractions, must have a voice.

I urge a reconsideration of this matter and stop this from proceeding.

Regards
Lorraine Parsons

WATER

The proposed mine site sits in the Inverbrackie Creek catchment area, in the protected Mt Lofty Ranges prescribed watershed zone which supplies the city of Adelaide with 60% of its drinking water.

Most of Woodside's water comes from a fragile network of underground aquifers which could be irreversibly damaged through underground blasting, tunnelling and drilling. This would affect hundreds of local homes and businesses surrounding the mine.

Terramin's proposal is based on reinjecting groundwater back into the local aquifer. Although some basic modelling has been done, the community has had no assurances that this process will cause no harm to water supply, levels and quality.

An independent study by CDM Smith shows that it is almost impossible to accurately model and predict the behaviour of underground water.

Terramin's hydrology analysis estimates the aquifer will drop up to 20 metres. This impact will be felt as far as 1.2 kilometres away and will affect at least 30 existing wells.

Many local crops are very sensitive to changes in water quality and quantity.

ECONOMY

Terramin's project can only last five years, as that is the expected life span of the mine.

Over that time, Terramin estimates a net profit of \$150m plus \$33m on wages and salaries for a total contribution of \$183m over five years. Over the same time:

The economic value of existing agriculture in the Inverbrackie district is forecast to be more than \$800 million in Gross State Product;

The total employment contribution made directly and indirectly by these businesses is expected to reach 772 full time equivalents (FTE) in the Adelaide Hills and 885 FTE jobs in South Australia as a whole; and

Capital expenditure planned by businesses in the area is forecast at approximately \$50 million

Read/reference an independent report on the economic value of existing businesses here.

ENVIRONMENT / AGRICULTURE

The proposed mine site lies at the heart of a thriving agricultural community that is internationally known thanks to the hard work of locals and South Australia's clean green reputation for delivering the best produce to the world.

Noise, dust and water contamination could affect crops and disturb visitors.

Risk of desecration of a pristine corner of South Australia which is renowned for its beautiful nature and landscape.

Any threat to water is a threat to horticulture and grazing in the region.

The hole for mining activity is proposed to be around 1500m in length x 500 metres deep. A hole of this size would be a blight on the landscape of this pristine area.

Mining activity would significantly increase heavy truck movement between the Inverbrackie community and Strathalbyn – Terramin's processing site.

TOURISM

The Adelaide Hills region attracts 1.4m visitors annually.

There are 744 tourism-based businesses in the area, supporting a large proportion of local jobs (South Australian Tourism Commission). Woodside in particular is establishing itself as a tourism 'hub'.

Mining activity will mean increases in noise, dust and traffic, which may deter or disturb visitors.

Major tourist attractions in the area include award-winning wineries, pristine natural landscapes and clean, green food and other produce.