

8 November, 2013

Mr M Howe  
Mining, Regulation and Rehabilitation Branch  
Dept for Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy  
GPO Box 1264  
Adelaide SA 5001

Dear Mr Howe,

**Re: Rex Minerals Mining Lease Proposal for the Hillside Copper Mine,  
Yorke Peninsula.**

I submit to you in writing my grave concerns for the life of the Yorke Peninsula should the above mining lease proposal be granted.

The below quote was taken from your department's website and I have huge doubts that the information provided is actually true.

"This public consultation is part of South Australia's world-class regulatory framework, under which applications are required to address all environmental, social and economic impacts."

"As part of its application the company was required to produce a substantial proposal document including a comprehensive assessment of environmental and social risks and impacts and details of how these will be effectively managed throughout the life of the mine."

[http://www.minerals.dmitre.sa.gov.au/press\\_and\\_events/news\\_releases/community\\_feedback\\_wanted\\_on\\_hillside\\_copper-gold\\_project](http://www.minerals.dmitre.sa.gov.au/press_and_events/news_releases/community_feedback_wanted_on_hillside_copper-gold_project). Page Last Modified: September 12, 2013)

- There are many inconsistencies between the Mining Lease Proposal and the appendices that have been distributed by Rex Minerals. If we are not able to determine which of the pieces of information are correct then how can the proposal be voted on at all?
- The proposal's maps that depict noise and dust pollution are not accurate either. The information put forward was not calculated on the current plan of the mine. How do we know what the actual dust and noise levels will be and consequently how they will be managed if not calculated on correct data? Rex Minerals state they will have water trucks to dampen dust, but can guarantee this for up to **3 windy days a year!** Have you been to the Yorke Peninsula? There are only about **3 NON-WINDY** days a year. So what do we do with all that dust then? The people of Yorke

Peninsula may be lucky enough if the winds just keep blowing it across the Gulf to Adelaide so we won't have to deal with it!

- The lack of impact studies on the Gulf of St Vincent is also of huge concern. What will vibrations, noise, dust and potential spills of copper do to our beautiful and bountiful Gulf? There is **NO** contingency plan for copper spillage and you can't tell me that Rex Minerals has a 100% spill-proof plan to move the copper. Copper has a devastating effect on sea-grasses and consequently the whole ecosystem. This has not been addressed.
- The sheer size of the mine is astonishing! It is to cover an area of **3000 hectares** of what is currently **prime agricultural country** on the Yorke Peninsula. This is to comprise an open pit that is 2.4 km long, 450 metres deep and 1.2 km wide. This will create a pit that is more than three Westpac buildings in depth and a width that is virtually the distance from North Terrace to Victoria square!
- The level and frequency of blasting will impact severely on the seaside lifestyle of the nearby local communities. One of the major drawcards is the serenity and restfulness of the Yorke Peninsula. A place where you can walk along the beach and hear native birdlife, porpoise watch from the cliffs, come across sealions resting on the sand, go crabbing in the summer season and fishing and squidding to relax after the tough week at work. Who wants to unwind with blasting and trucks humming and dust in the air. The tourist life of the Yorke Peninsula will be lost forever!
- In the driest state in the driest continent, where there are vast tracts of our state that can not sustain agriculture, and in an era where food security is paramount, I am astounded that removing the long term agricultural potential of this highly productive land in the search for short term monetary gains is being considered.

Given these reasons, I ask that the department denies Rex Mineral's application for this mine.

I look forward to your favourable response.

Yours sincerely

Rebekah Spencer

[REDACTED]  
Stepney SA 5069

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cc Pine Point Progress Association