

Dean, Julie (DEM)

From: fiona hope <fhope12@outlook.com>
Sent: Tuesday, 3 September 2019 4:19 PM
To: DEM:Mining Reg Rehab
Subject: Woodside mine submission

I am a Woodside resident, the proposed gold mine would be less than 4 kilometers, uphill from my home. I will be impacted significantly by this mine through dust and noise, but although dust and noise are a big concern for me, of bigger concern are the effects on the aquifer, the environment, the town, and the agricultural sector in the region.

We know that there is no way that testing can adequately predict the impact of underground blasting on our precious aquifer system. The only way to ensure the security of our water is to stop this mine from going ahead.

Below are some facts that I am sure you would be aware of. In a nutshell this mine is madness and will have a big negative impact on our town and environment. As a state minister, it is your responsibility to prevent such a short term project from ruining our precious Adelaide hills environment and thriving agricultural and tourism industries. Please review the facts below and ask yourself do you honestly think this mine is in the best interest of the Adelaide hills and its people.

- 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.
- 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. Any threat to water is a threat to horticulture and grazing in the region.
- 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.
- Noise, dust and water contamination are likely to affect crops and disturb visitors.
- The mine risks desecration of a pristine corner of South Australia which is renowned for its beautiful nature and landscapes.
- Mining activity would significantly increase heavy truck movement between the Inverbrackie community and Strathalbyn – Terramin's processing site.
- The Adelaide Hills region attracts 1.4m visitors annually. There are 744 tourism-based businesses in the area, supporting 1 in every 7 local jobs. 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.

regards,

Fiona Hope