

Howe, Mark (DMITRE)

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From: Josephine Wundersitz [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, 26 October 2013 8:47 AM
To: DMITRE:MiningRegRehab
Cc: Zeman, Nathan (DMITRE)
Subject: Pubice Comment Submission - Rex Hillside Mine
Attachments: Ard flood 1.jpg; Ard flood 2.jpg; Ard flood 3.jpg; ard flood 4.jpg



To Mark Howe
DMITRE
Level 7,101 Grenfell Street
Adelaide.

Dear Sir,

I live in Adelaide but do have family connections on Yorke Peninsula and often visit the communities of Black Point and Ardrossan. I am deeply concerned about the proposed Rex Hillside 'open cut' copper mine near Pine Point, particularly in regard to the following areas which I do not believe have been adequately addressed either by Rex or the government

- Departments involved ...
- Food and Water security
- Toxicity of copper
- Dust control
- Rex Mineral expertise and experience
- Tourism, noise and vibration
- Local people not in agreement
- No against mining but location in farming/tourist regions
- Restoration after mine is depleted
- Catastrophic events ... floor, fire, wind (Photos included)
- Restoration and cost
- Auditing and surveillance to ensure good practice
- Example of open cut copper mine with best practice?

Having studied this Yorke Peninsula mining proposal I am concerned that this project would cause irreversible damage to the agricultural cropping and natural environment of this popular tourist coastline.

South Australia has a very small percent of agricultural land and is it my concern that Food Security should be priority No 1 for our long term future. Has the Strategic Plan for SA made food security a priority and land protected for this purpose? (Including Agriculture, Grazing and Dairy industries.)

Water will also be necessary for this mine and will the proposed pipeline come from the already stressed River Murray or where? Water security for the State is another concern.

Copper is toxic to humans, animals, vegetation, waterways and the atmosphere when safe limits are surpassed. (Taking that this area is known for strong winds which is why an 'unpopular' wind farm was recently proposed for this region.) Mining could cease on windy days but one cannot stop the wind blowing dust from exposed surfaces and waste dumps.

In an open cut mine dust cannot be fully controlled and is there a guarantee that the copper limit can be 1.0mg/m3 per cubic metre? (Check website ATSDR for an excellent analysis of copper)

I cannot see that Rex Mining is expert in mining practices despite their efforts to tick all the boxes. None of their personnel seem to have had experience with copper.

In general Y.P. is known for it's peaceful, undulating environment making places along the coast like Black Point a haven for a holiday escape. To have any of this disturbed would be most upsetting for many South Australians let alone the local people. Noise and vibration will also be a factor.

The local people are definitely not happy with the idea of a mine on their doorstep and to witness so many people at a public meeting on a Sunday afternoon (October 20th) was extraordinary. No way is the town of Ardrossan ready for a

· nearby mine and the risks that comes with it. Local services such as the police, health, education, and infrastructure would be effected along with the environment.

· As much as one wants to see SA economically develop, mining should not take place in built up areas where it could become a danger to the health and well-being of the community.

· Who is going to restore the environment and at what cost?? Around the world there are examples of where post-mining environmental damage has not healed after 40 years and where the cost of restoration well outstripped the actual financial benefits of the mine. Rex has no idea what will happen to the big pit/hole left in the ground. Who is responsible for the land if there is not enough money for proper restoration ... the company, or the locals and SA taxpayers?

· What would happen in the times of flood, fire, mini tornadoes or the unusual weather effects that are taking place with obvious climate change. I attach photos an Ardrössan flood that happened after a sudden rain downpour in 1946. These sort of climatic events should be taken into account.

Finally, if Rex Mining agrees to all safety conditions who will police, audit and hold the mining operations to account. Would there be regular surveillance and despite all the stated rules and regulations? Does the government have the staffing to adequately monitor such processes?

· Is there an example in Australia of a safe open cut copper mine near a built up area that is applauded for best practice mining? Please tell me if there is.

· Thank you for the opportunity to voice opinions and I sincerely hope you re-examine and visit the area concerned to see the risks to the precious environment that Australian government policies indicate should be preserved.

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