

Howe, Mark (DMITRE)

From: Di Bourne [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, 6 November 2013 12:49 PM
To: DMITRE: MiningRegRehab
Subject: Fwd: Rex Minerals' Hillside mine
Attachments: Doc1.doc

Mr Mark Howe
Mining, Regulation and Rehabilitation Branch,
Dept for Manufacturing, Innovation, Trade, Resources and Energy,

Dear Mr Howe,

As land owners in Pine Point, where we have a family residence and manufacturing business servicing the rural sector and with another home on our farming property near Cunningham, 10km West of Ardrossan, we believe we have every

right to submit our deep concerns and disapproval of the Rex Minerals' proposal for the Hillside Copper Mine.

We are not opposed to mining and the benefits it brings to SA but we sincerely hope that somewhere which, already has the infrastructure in place and is not in close proximity to towns or a major food producing area, will be seen as a more viable option.

The Dry Land agricultural area of Yorke Peninsula is a reliable food producer which does not require irrigation and therefore does not put a drain

on the State's precious water resources as do many other areas of Australia. The more we learn about this proposed mine we feel that Rex Minerals has not adequately identified the potential long term detrimental and irreversible impact on the rural sector as a whole, the environment, the loss of tourism and food production related income and employment.

OUR CONCERNS / QUESTIONS:

Rex Minerals' claims as a *Potential Benefit* that: the majority of their 550-750 "workforce will become, [REDACTED] are already, permanent residents within a radius of 50km of the Hillside Mine..." and suggest there will be a property boom.

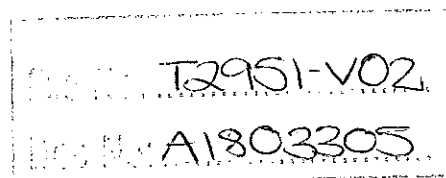
Land values:

Why then do Rex Minerals have 30 work cabins already in use at Sandilands (an isolated rural district 10km from mine site) with plans to build another work camp site nearby as self contained accommodation for workers?

Why did they originally think that a ferry from Adel was necessary to bring and return workers in each day. These seem in complete contradiction to the above claim.

Employment

At present, the nearby towns of Ardrossan and Maitland struggle to entice or retain Doctors, Dentists, teachers, Church leaders and other professionals to live here with their families as we can not offer the education or the life style for their families they have in major centres (ie Adel). Therefore, we cannot see that there will be the real estate boom for local investors as predicted by Rex Minerals. More likely land will devalue, especially within proximity of the Hillside Mine.



It is already difficult for local small businesses, like ourselves, to obtain suitable employees but if Rex employs such a large work force we will not be able to compete with mine wages.

Another real concern is the effect that the blasting will have on us, our home and business dwellings especially at Pine Point.

Blasting zone: See map attached produced by SAROS of Hillside mine showing the extent of vibration impacts. Diagram shows explosion impacts as at the centre of the pit. If the explosion sites are moved to the extremities of the pit (as marked X) the town of Pine Point, existing rural dwellings and the highway will all fall within stronger vibration zones.(as thick dotted line which we have added indicates) Surely this must be against mining acceptable practices? Will these vibrations affect the marine life or water in the bay between Pine Point and Black Point, a well used tourist / holiday settlement? We also believe that the explosives will be stored on site which is a major safety issue and concern.

Rex Minerals' claims

"Final land usages include agriculture and revegetation.."

"The existing ground water at Hillside is saline and not suitable for stock. The use of groundwater will only lower the water table in a very localised area.."

It is explained that this water together with sea water piped from Ardrossan will be used to wet down the mine area to keep down dust levels.

(In such a windy area the effect that the potentially hazardous dust will have on the yield and sale of our crops if contaminated is another great concern.)

Rehabilitation

Again the above claim is a contradiction. Land treated with saline water is not then suitable for food production.

What happens if the mine is not as viable as predicted, have lost prime farming land, to mainly overseas investors?

No matter how good the rehabilitation of the mine site, prime agricultural land and just as importantly a whole community will be lost forever.

This will cause a flow on effect to all sectors of the rural community. Small business will lose clients, school pupil numbers will decrease and volunteer services, of which there are many, will struggle.

We see that the proposed extent of mining in this area is not a viable option but a short term gain for a long time loss.

We thank you for your time in considering our concerns and look forward to a favourable outcome to this submission.

Yours faithfully

Mr Austin Bourne & Mrs Dianne Bourne


Pine Point SA 5571

6th Nov 2013