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## We write to you **OPPOSING** the **REX MINERALS MINING PROJECT on Yorke Peninsula**

We live on our 3<sup>rd</sup> Generation farming property at Sandilands, with our four children who will become the 4<sup>th</sup> Generation. We take a great deal of pride in our HOME, our land, our family farming income and livelihood.

We have some of the, if not the best farming land in South Australia, Australia and the world. Well known as the Barley Belt of Australia and as the District Council of Yorke Peninsula's slogan states "*Agriculturally Rich, Naturally Beautiful*". We love where we live! We love that we can raise our family in the country and produce fantastic wheat, barley, oil seeds and legumes.

We are members of the Yorke Peninsula Landowners Group (YPLOG) and support their detailed submission.

We have immense concerns for this development.

**Roads:** It will have direct impact and safety concerns for all road users. A high level of tourist traffic and daily school bus routes, would be put at risk. Our four children travel daily on school buses. With Rex Minerals proposing to truck in from other sites to process, how safe will our family be?

What percentage of Prime Agricultural land will be lost to host roads? How many farmers and families will be forced off of their land and out of their homes to build these roads to sustain the huge dump trucks?

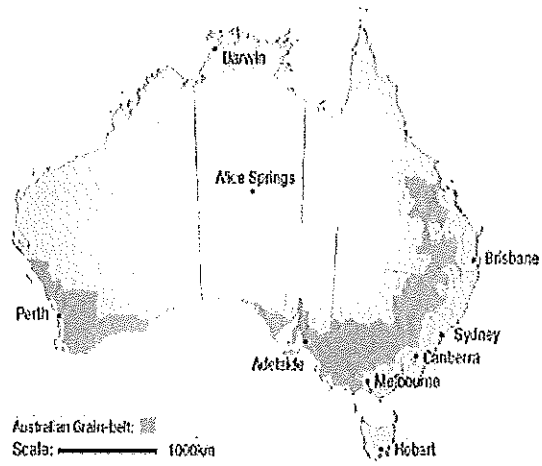
**Tourism:** What impact will this place on the disruption of roads to local and tourist traffic (including peak Agricultural periods with shifting machinery and stock routes) Will the Rex Minerals Mining Project cripple the tourism industry on Yorke as well as the ability to farm our Prime Agricultural land with our best practices? I don't see how we will be attracting tourists to our area with the disruption placed on traffic and the loss of serenity that Yorke Peninsula provides for those city folk trying to get away from it all.

With an approximate population of 7000\* (and approximately 5550 dwellings) in the Central Yorke Peninsula area, which swells at peak holiday periods, a considerable number of people will be continually placed at risk. Human safety must be paramount.

What stress will be placed on the already existing tourist accommodation to house workers?

**Prime Agricultural Land:** The Rex Minerals Mining Project overlooks neighbouring farms and coastal settlements, the very businesses that underpin the local community. Particularly this area proposed for the Rex Minerals Hillside Mine is of Prime Agricultural quality.

*"Due to Australia's large cropping area and small population, Australia is a major source of quality wheat, barley and canola to international markets. The majority of grain in Australia is grown by large, professional, family owned operations who have been farming the land for generations. Australia's reputation for quality grain, economic and political stability and proximity to key markets, provides an excellent opportunity for grain investment and long term procurement of grain stocks". AACL*



<http://www.aacl.com.au/our-products/>



Harvest 4<sup>th</sup> Dec 2009 Bumper Wheat crop, the best yield of wheat on our farm to date.



We take a great deal of pride in the crops grown on our farm. This barley crop, in 2012, grew Premium Malting Barley (FLAGSHIP) which was sold and exported to Japan to Sapporo Brewing for Beer production. Sapporo require the timeliness of certain chemicals to be applied, with diary entries for safe 'clean' production of malting barley. From the 511, 740 MT of barley produced, 93, 777 MT came from Australia in 2012. During conferences with Sapporo managers earlier this year, it was advised that other areas of South Australia had been scrapped for growing barley due to the growing conditions. Sapporo and Glencore Grain report that Malting Barley grown on Yorke Peninsula has been top quality and they want as much of it as they can get from Central Yorke Peninsula. They do however, have a select number of growers in our area.

~~If we are unable to protect our crops from contamination then we risk the ability to produce these types of yields and supply the world with top grade grain.~~

Who will be liable for litigation when our grains and soil becomes contaminated?

**Contamination of our air and water supplies:** We have major concerns for the airborne dusts and contamination. What potentially could we be breathing in and what could be settling on our roofs and ending up in our rain water tanks? Our whole house is sustained on rainwater. And the majority of our water used for raising crops comes from our own supply also.

**Noise nuisance:** We already have the nuisance of the Rex Minerals 'camp' from the light glow (might sound silly, but in the country we don't have too many bright lights!). When we are on our coastal block, the lights are quite prominent, just one road over! How will we not hear blasting, trucks and operations when we do already hear blasting from the Ardrossan Dolomite Mine and at times the Proof Range near Port Wakefield? This Hillside mine is basically on our doorstep compared to those.

**Loss of visual amenity for the local community:** We can't fathom the sheer enormity of the size of the overburden piles! Up to 115 metre high piles! We are geographically relatively flat land. These piles will be seen for miles! We were in the city of Adelaide this week, and looking up at 80 metre high buildings! We just can't imagine looking at dirt piles when we should be seeing our gorgeous coastline. Yes we can see the coast from our home on a clear day. What will these piles of dirt carry in them and blow across the cropping land and into the seabeds? We fear Yorke Peninsula will be lost in a dust cloud. How do you keep 115 metre piles of dirt wet so they do not blow?

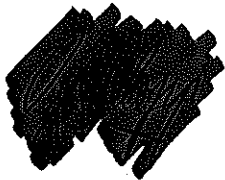
**Lack of Community Consultation:** It was either earlier this year or sometime last year, which I observed Rex Minerals employee Wayne Brooks detailing information to local business owners. He said to the business owners "direct the community to me if they are having any concerns" . . . He noted I was waiting to be served, and after apologising for taking up my time I said "You don't realise where I live!!" (I could clearly see the map he was showing the staff). With that he packed up his paper work and walked out the door! Hardly engaging with the community!!

I have attended the recent meetings regarding the Rex Minerals Project. After observing employees reactions to community members wanting to speak out, I was absolutely disgusted! The Rex Minerals community meeting "Meet the CEO Mark Parry" was cut short – no excuse given. The whole community has so many questions unanswered. Small country towns work together, helping each other out in need. Their lack of consultation has certainly shown through and no one trusts them.

By adopting sensible planning policies Mining Projects can be placed in areas that do not impact agricultural production and farming practices, on non-arable land that is sparsely populated, to avoid impacting the safety and welfare of farmers, residents and tourists in rural communities.

We strongly believe that Mining developments must not compromise prime agricultural land. We are concerned that the legislation as it stands will force farmers from their land. Agricultural sustainability, food security and human safety should be prioritised when considering the placement of any industrial development.

Kind Regards



Greg Klopp



Sarah Klopp

And on behalf of our children

Naivey, Willoughby, Percy and Murphy Klopp



MAITLAND SA 5573



\* Reference from:

[http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census\\_services/getproduct/census/2011/quickstat/405041127?opendocument&navpos=220](http://www.censusdata.abs.gov.au/census_services/getproduct/census/2011/quickstat/405041127?opendocument&navpos=220)

**Yorke Peninsula - North**

Code 405041127 (SA2)