

Dear sir,

Ken Klopp

[REDACTED]
S.A. 5573
[REDACTED]

I am writing to voice my concerns with the proposed Rex Mineral Hillside Mine. The document is so large and written in a way in which the layman is unable to understand the full meaning and implication of such a proposal. I will address my questions and concerns in dot point form in the hope that your department, who I understand is responsible for the next step in the process, will be able to address my concerns.

- The proposal includes building on land that is not owned by Rex.
- Why is the open cut depth so deep, shallower open cut less overburden less land required.
- Ground water management. Is the mine to be kept dry by pumping the contaminated water back into the aquifer? What will this do to the gulf waters? What will this do to the aquifer? Will it create salinity in surrounding land? How far from the mine site will the effect be seen? Will the fresh water aquifer be affected? Who pays for lost agricultural production? Who pays for salt affected houses? Who pays for salt affected infrastructure?
- Overburden and waste rock heaps are proposed to be up to 11.5m high, surely in a populated agriculture and tourism region this is out of the question and under no circumstance should be allowed.
- Is it correct that Uranium at 1000ppm that is present in the deposit will be "blended down" to 280 ppm with the standard at 200ppm and 80 ppm the recommended new standard?
- If Uranium is in the waste piles how safe will it be? Dust particles travel over a wide area with farm houses, towns, retirement/holiday houses and one of South Australia's most beautiful resort style beaches, Black Point all extremely close to the mine.
- Water run-off from these mountainous overburden heaps from normal rainfall events will that be contained or will the contaminants be carried to the surrounding environment? (including Gulf St. Vincent)
- Copper, one of the main minerals to be mined is extremely toxic, the above points apply.
- What is in place to safeguard the slurry pipe taking this ore to the port of Ardrossan? How can it be inspected when it is buried?
- What safeguards are in place for the dewatering plant which will be placed only a few hundred meters from the Marine Sanctuary that surrounds the port of Ardrossan?
- What will happen to the water from the dewatering process once it is pumped back to the mine? Dams? Pumped into the aquifer? Allowed to soak into the Gulf? I can only imagine the volumes of water generated in this process. Will it be treated?
- The Port of Ardrossan is very shallow and the berth not very wide how much dredging will be required? How often to maintain the channel and the berth? How will the dredged material be disposed of? Can this be done in a port surrounded by a marine park? Who will pay for the cost of this?
- What is the effect of dust and spillage from the loading operation for the marine environment and for the township of Ardrossan.

- How will the Grain storage and handling facility of Viterra at Ardrossan be affected? Can Iron ore, copper, nickel be processed and loaded in such close proximity to a food handling system.
- What are the rights of existing businesses that will be directly affected by the mining?
- Why is land outside of the mine boundary proposed to be re-zoned? Is this because Rex know that they are unable to meet their standards and want a "buffer zone" in which no compensation will be paid? Is it because of undisclosed expansion plans?
- What rights do landowners have within this rezoned area?
- If crops are damaged or contaminated by toxic dust will the farmer be able to be compensated?
- Haul roads to any of the 50 other sites identified, how will these be handled? Haul roads need to be in this proposal, not at a later date when the pressure on authorities to allow use of existing infrastructure being one of the main arguments.
- Why is water infrastructure currently being built from Auburn to Pt. Wakefield to be brought down to Hillside when approvals have not yet been granted?
- Who will police the regulations imposed on the mine? Is there sufficient staff to do the job?
- Why is the timeframe for submissions so short? The community is just starting to become aware of the scale of the project. Rex has had years to formulate this proposal, the community only gets weeks to respond.

Having recently attended Rex Minerals meeting at Ardrossan, 11th hour public consultation no doubt intended to show to governing bodies how good a public citizen they are, I was pleased that the re-zoning application has been withdrawn, I hope this will not be resubmitted at a later date. I was not convinced by Mr. Parry that any community concerns that will reduce the bottom line of his project will be considered. I hope that the responsibility entrusted in your department will serve our community and not allow the mine to proceed in its current open pit format. We are a first world country and have, I believe, a responsibility to the community, the environment and the generations to come.

Yours sincerely,

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Ken Klopp