

Dean, Julie (DEM)

From: Brad McCloud <brad@labelpartners.com.au>
Sent: Wednesday, 28 August 2019 4:53 PM
To: DEM:Minister Dan van Holst Pellekaan
Subject: public submission regarding Bird in Hand mine at Woodside
Attachments: 28082019145019-0001.pdf

Dear Ministerial and Departmental staff

Please find attached a submission from Label Partners regarding the proposed Bird in Hand mine at Woodside. I would be grateful if the attached correspondence could be forwarded to the Ministers Office for consideration.

With thanks and Kind Regards

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Minister for Energy and Mining

The Honourable Dan Van Holst Pellekaan

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Dear Minister

I am writing to you for the purpose of making a submission regarding the proposed Bird in Hand mine at Woodside. I would be grateful if you could take this submission into account when considering whether to approve or deny the application by Terramin Mining for new gold and silver mining operations to commence at that location.

By way of introduction, I am the Managing Director of a South Australian manufacturing business, Label Partners Pty Ltd, who supply pressure sensitive labels for use on wine, beer and food products. Our niche is servicing local producers and manufacturers. We specialise in printing high quality premium labels, so our main customer base comes from South Australian wineries. This is so because wine bottles (especially premium wines like those produced in SA) generally feature the most intricate and high-quality labels available.

Label Partners is my family business, and we employ hardworking South Australians to print our labels at Keswick, mostly in competition with large international companies, who have local operations servicing the wine industry in South Australia. I recently took on this position from my father, David McCloud, who started Label Partners with some likeminded colleagues (who still work here and own shares), and since then it has grown from 8 employees to 35.

Up until taking on this role earlier this year, I have held positions as an Executive in the South Australian government, a Prosecutor in the Crown Solicitor's Office, and Chief Legal Advisor to Safework SA. In these capacities, I have personally been involved with the investigation and (on several occasions) prosecution of mining companies operating in South Australia, after serious incidents have occurred. I am in no way anti-mining in a broad sense, but I have seen first-hand the catastrophic consequences which can flow from accidents in mining operations. I am also a long-term resident of the Adelaide Hills.

Bird in Hand winery is a highly valued loyal customer of Label Partners. They are well entrenched in our top ten customers in relation to sales. Bird in Hand's business is obviously very important to Label Partners, and I want to make it clear that if the long-term viability of the Bird in Hand winery was jeopardised, that the effects of this will be felt far beyond Woodside and the Adelaide Hills region more broadly.

My principal concern with the proposed mine involves the compatibility of mining operations in this beautiful part of the Adelaide Hills. In particular, I am concerned with the substantial use of explosives by Terramin's mining operations taking place against the fragile nature of the surrounding Adelaide Hills landscape, agriculture and water resources. Further to this, even the perception that such operations may cause, has the potential to damage the broader Adelaide Hills 'brand' as it relates to food and wine production. Other wineries and businesses beyond Bird in Hand may also be affected, which of course concerns Label Partners as a significant part of our customer base comes from wineries and food producers in the Adelaide Hills region.

Whilst I accept that Terramin have undertaken to perform a range of measures designed to prevent or mitigate environmental damage, I remain concerned that such measures cannot eliminate the risk of irreparable damage to the surrounding environment, local business, and the Adelaide Hills 'brand' internationally. As I

understand them, most of the mitigating measures proposed by Terramin rely of systems of work adopted by Terramin employees and contractors, and in my experience with such matters, systems of work are an imperfect way of managing risk. Even well-intentioned, well-organised and well-resourced mining companies have accidents. There are many examples of this in recent Australian workplace history, too many to mention here. They tragically often result in human fatalities or major environmental damage to flora, fauna and geology. At their core, mining operations are complex, and reliant on the heavy use of explosives to break rock. The effects of such operations are not easily undone, if they can be at all. Not all potential problems can be readily foreseen, and in my experience, I have witnessed some of the largest and most robust mining operations in the world, make substantial and catastrophic errors. I am deeply concerned that even with the best of intentions and well-planned systems in place, the risk of catastrophic damage cannot be eliminated. Terramin Mining do not have a blameless history of mining operations in the Hills region, and I remain unconvinced that they will be able to ensure that everything going on at the site will go according to plan.

In such circumstances, the viability and appropriateness of the location of any proposed mining operations is all important. In relation to the application at hand, it is my submission that a location within a premium wine and food producing region that is focussed on experiential tourism is simply not compatible with such an operation.

As a resident of the Hills, I understand just how entrenched Bird in Hand winery is within the fabric of the local community. As part of that community, I feel compelled to defend the reasonable interests of the Bird in Hand winery, and the historic and iconic physical location that it seeks to protect. The same can be said for many of the other surrounding wineries, farms and food producers who may be affected by the proposed mining operation. The reputation of the Adelaide Hills nationally and internationally as a tourism destination and region for premium wine and food production is simply too valuable to place at risk for the sake of a relatively short-term mining project.

Whilst I understand the financial value for the State which could flow from mining royalties at the site, and that there may be up to 150 jobs created, the risk to the State's finances and reputation more broadly should the tourism or agriculture / viticulture sector be compromised, far outweighs those benefits. The Adelaide Hills' outstanding reputation has been hard earned over a long time. It must not be jeopardised by short-term interests which have the potential to poison the well.

We at Label Partners urge you, as the Minister responsible, to deny the proposed application on foot to permit new operations at the old Bird in Hand mine. The risk to the Bird in Hand Winery, and to the Adelaide Hills, is just not worth it.

Thank you for taking the time to consider my submission, and I will be pleased to discuss the matters I have raised further, with you or your staff should you so require.

Kind Regards



Brad McCloud

Managing Director

26 August 2019