

Media Release

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ROCKY HILL MINE A DISASTER FOR GLOUCESTER

The NSW Planning Department has today released a new Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the proposed Rocky Hill coal mine which, if given government consent, will see the construction of a dirty open cut mine right on the southern doorstep of the beautiful township of Gloucester.

Gloucester was recently saved from serious environmental damage by the sensible decision by AGL to abandon its flawed coal seam gas project. Now just 6 months later, the town is faced with a foreign owned company wanting to inflict untold environmental damage by building a large open cut coal mine within less than 1k of Gloucester homes.

Groundswell member Julie Lyford says:

"The proposal to build such a mine so close to Gloucester is appalling and must be stopped. The Gloucester community has endured enough pain in recent years and this flawed proposal, which has been hanging over Gloucester for 8 years, should not be allowed to proceed. If built, this mine would be an unsightly scar on the Gloucester landscape, but just as bad it would present huge health and environmental risks to the people of Gloucester. The proposal is simply unacceptable.

A detailed survey of community attitudes to this mine by Gloucester Shire Council has shown that an overwhelming majority of Gloucester residents had a negative attitude to this mine. It is not wanted by the people of Gloucester."

Groundswell Gloucester urges everyone concerned about this proposal to take a few moments to send a strong message to the Department of Planning saying that the Gloucester community has had enough and approval should be refused.

The Gloucester community and others concerned people now have 2 months to have their say.

The new EIS can be viewed at www.majorprojects.nsw.gov.au/page/on-exhibition/

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