

Submission by long time residents (on Mt England Valla since 1976),
comment and opinion on the Proposed Mining designation for the
Valla Valley as recommended by

The NSW Dept of Planning and the Environment Draft regional Plan
Review

We have seen massive change to the use of land in the surrounding
Valla Valley, and Nambucca Shire during our period of residence
here.

Progress and development are essential and inevitable. However this
cannot occur without effect on the landscape, environment and
ecology.

The natural beauty and pristine qualities of the Valla Valley have
been altered by the expanding population and the current quarry
activities.

This has consequently, increased the need for careful planning of
future development and use of the land.

Many long time and more recent residents cherish the valley as a
comfortable place to live and raise families, due to and because of its
natural beauty. A combination of forests, well maintained farmland,
and pristine world class beaches.

The area east of the Great Dividing Range along the NSW coast is
unique compared to the rest of continental Australia. It is bearing the
burden of its expanding population and developing cities and towns.
Some of its natural beauty has already been lost forever.

The remaining relatively unspoiled areas like Valla need to be
preserved and managed, to keep the natural attributes as intact as
possible for future generations, existing local residents, touring
Australians and overseas visitors.

It has been stated in some of the submissions to the NSW Dept of Planning and Environment, by local groups and associations. That the proposal to designate the Valla Valley as a mining and quarry leased compartment is contradicting some of the goals of the Draft North Coast Regional Plan.

While it will appease the city centric parties concerned and private external mining interests. It will not have a positive outcome for current and future, residents of Valla and tourists alike.

Cities like Coffs Harbour need to look closer to and in there shire for resources. Then the effect of quarrying and mining resources would create a need for a duty of care relative to Coffs Harbour shire. Surrounding shires would not then have their quality of environment and life diminished just to supply another shire.

The Draft North Coast Regional Plan is a very important and relevant initiative, for the future of the coast. There are pertinent goals within the document. However there are many generalisations, conflicting and inconsiderate recommendations, and proposals.

Local residents have a right to input and objection to aspects that they as actual residents, can clearly justify. Especially if there will be unsustainable resource profit taking by non resident corporate venture capitalists.

The potential pollution ramifications of mining and further quarry activities, is negative to the wellbeing of Valley residents, and the land and aquifers.

Valla Valley Rural area and Valla Beach Village are very desirable locations to live and farm in. The quality and value of the areas will be greatly diminished if the intended mining designation is carried forward approved and included in the DNCRP.