



Director, Resources Policy
 NSW Department of Planning and Environment
 GPO Box 39
 Sydney NSW 2001

Proposed Jerry Plains Open Cut Mining Prohibition

We the members of The Denman & District Men's Shed and The Denman & District Heritage Village are writing to express our support for the NSW Government's proposed Jerry Plains open cut mining prohibition.

We support the proposed amendments to the State Environmental Planning Policy (State and Regional Development) 2011 because;

- (1) It will deliver **certainty** for the local community and local businesses- including the Upper Hunter Equine industry. The local community has been frustrated by ongoing attempts to approve an open-cut coal mine at EL5460. This decision recognizes that mining underground is a far better outcome for the community. It will dramatically reduce impacts associated with dust, light, blasting, noise and subsidence. It will also greatly reduce any impact on local horse studs, with their properties situated roughly 5km away from a mine entry, and 15km away from mine infrastructure.
- (2) It will provide a much a much needed **economic boost** for the local area. A new underground mine could generate about 350 new jobs for the region, with many more indirect jobs. In addition, the project will provide ongoing support for local businesses from the initial capital to establish an underground mine and substantial ongoing operating inputs. Annual export sales are likely to be around \$600 million and it is expected that over the initial 30 years the project will generate around \$1.7 billion of royalties.
- (3) **It is a common sense "win-win"** for our community, that allows us to continue to benefit from the existence of a number of strong local industries. As you would know, for well over a century many different sectors have worked side by side here, creating a wide of jobs for a wide range of people. Sustainability in our region requires industries to co-exist and work together to support jobs, services and economic growth. We believe the prohibition strikes an appropriate compromise- recognizing the importance of co- existence in our region, and the important role underground mining developments will play in its future.

The proposed prohibition provides certainty for the local community. I means we can continue to reap the benefits of strong local industries that have worked side by side for over a century, and all the jobs and economic investment they both provide.

Yours Sincerely
Denis Chandler

On behalf of the Denman & District Men's Shed & The Denman & District Heritage Village
Denman NSW

President
Neville Bray
0265472181

Secretary
Denis Chandler
0265472627

Treasure
Len Van Der Vliet
0265472568