
Request to be heard?: No - but please email me a copy of the
Timetable and any Directions

Full Name: Grant Kelly

Organisation:

Affected property:

Attachment 1:

Attachment 2:

Attachment 3:

Comments: Regardless of any operating conditions or other objections which may be negotiated regarding this mine there are two main issues which cannot be address satisfactorily for the future operation of this mine. The effect of changing climate on our environment is an unknown quantity. 30-40 years ago we were experiencing in eastern Australia, "one in a hundred year floods" and similar droughts. Recently we have experienced "one in a thousand year flood events" and the worst drought on record over much of eastern Australia. The Australian Bureau of Meteorology has forecast that weather events will become more extreme, and extreme weather events more common in the future as global temperature averages rise and seas become warmer. Under these expected and UNPREDICTABLE future environmental conditions I deem that it is impossible to build a tailings retainment dam that can be guaranteed not to fail. If you do not know or cannot predict the magnitude of any future possible rainfall events, then you cannot build to mitigate against them. There has been a plethora of such events around the world recently and, as a result, an alarming number of tailings dam failures. The other issue is the other extreme weather event - drought. In the event of worsening droughts which are forecast for the future but again with an unknown parameter for intensity, what can we know of the effect that the huge amount of water needed to be removed from the local environment to run this mine, will have on the local and downstream environment, essential food production, and human, domestic animal and wildlife water requirements? The fact that much of this water is coming from an underground aquifer does not change the relevance of the amount to be removed from the environment. Underground aquifers stretch for many kilometres often with unknown boundaries and the actual volume of water contained unknown. They are a contained, and finite, underground water storage which is not an infinite or endless resource. They need to be refilled when depleted. Unknown but EXPECTED worsening droughts will affect the replenishment of this water resource and thus affect all others who rely on the resources used by the mine whether it be from aquifer or river. I request that those who are making the decision to approve or disapprove the operation of this mine, will take this future of certain uncertainty regarding our weather and climate into account. And, in the interest of choosing the safest outcome for the local and near environment, human and natural habitation in the area and downstream, and the safeguard of the wellbeing of future inhabitants of the area, choose not to approve the operation of this mine. The current Govt response to the Covid 19 pandemic shows that it considers human life and future wellbeing more important than economic factors. A concerned voice for an enjoyably liveable future, Grant Kelly Holder of a Diploma in Security and Risk

Assessment and Management.