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From: ~~Henry Crowell~~
Sent: Wednesday, 22 February 2017 7:50 PM
To: DSD: Mining Act Review
Subject: Mining act review submission

First point of my submission is that the mining review process should be done by a person or committee independent from the DSD as the DSD is responsible for promoting mining and approving exploration/mine proposals. So will be bias towards the mining sector.

My second point is the land below Goyder's line must be exempt from exploration/mining (with the exemption of extractive minerals) as we must protect our food producing areas which is becoming very important with the worlds increasing population.

Agriculture is very important to the state's economy and will continue to be in the future. In March this year my family will have been farming the same patch of land for 140 years and 6 generations taking great care of it and producing vital food and hope to continue doing this for a long time yet, where as mining companies who when the minerals have been extracted after a relativity short time move on leaving behind a damaged landscape that can never be returned to productive agriculture.

Another point is Section 9AA of the current Mining Act must be removed. This section effectively over-rides the exemption given to agricultural land from exploration/mining by allowing companies to take farmers to court if they refuse to waive that exemption. This unfairly causes stress to the landowner.

My next point is the detrimental impact large scale mining has on small coastal towns when a mine is approved in close proximity, these towns rely on tourism and people come to live/retire to those towns, people will be turned away if mines are allowed to be opened up close to towns.

Mine closure and rehabilitation plans must reflect leading practice standards, rather than the minimalist standards now accepted by Government. Leaving behind a massive open-pit and huge waste rock dumps that have simply been rounded off and covered over with soil is not good enough. If it is uneconomic for a company to backfill the pit and remove the waste rock dumps then the project should not receive Government approval. The leading practice standard – that, at mine closure, the land should be returned as closely as possible to that which existed pre-mining – must be mandatory.

There also needs to better monitoring of current mines as quiet often on windy days high amounts of dust can be seen blowing from a sand mine close to where I live.

Henry Crowell 20 year old Farmer

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