

From:
To: [Hearings](#)
Cc: [Edwina White](#)
Subject: Notifications Consent Submission: Group 542
Date: Sunday, 17 May 2020 11:29:33 AM
Attachments: [Coalgate2.pdf](#)

Group ID: 542

Consent name: Bathurst Coal Limited

Consent number: CRC184166, CRC200500, CRC201366, CRC201367, CRC201368, CRC203016, RC185622

Name: Caroline Syddall

Care of:

Mailing address 1:

Mailing address 2:

Suburb:

Town/City:

Post-code:

Country:

Mobile phone:

Work phone:

Home phone:

Email:

Contact by email: Yes

Is a trade competitor: No

Directly affected: No

Consent support/hearing details

- CRC184166: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing
- CRC200500: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing
- CRC201366: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing
- CRC201367: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing
- CRC201368: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing
- CRC203016: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing
- RC185622: oppose | WANT to be heard | WILL consider a joint hearing

Reasons comment:

I oppose the granting of this consent on the grounds of: damage to the local environment; downstream damage to waterways including Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere; poor environmental history of the mining company; effect on climate change from the burning of the coal; inappropriate area of the economy/workforce to be supporting/subsidising through environmental damage; impact on surrounding households.

Consent comment:

Deny all consents and permits.

I recommend that both Bathurst's retrospective and new consents to continue operating and expand the opencast Canterbury Coal Mine at Bush Gully Road, Malvern Hills, in the Selwyn District be **declined**.

My reasons for this are:

1. Bathurst has already shown itself to have a blatant disregard for the environment and regulatory systems. That they are an irresponsible operator is evidenced by
 - 14 infringement notices for sediment runoff
 - exceeding its extraction permit by a factor of 5
2. Discharge to the Tara Stream/Wetland is completely inappropriate, both for the potential damage to this stream/wetland and for downstream damage to Te Waihora/Lake Ellesmere, an already severely degraded body of water. Wetlands continue to be under threat across New Zealand and this mining operation should not be allowed to continue putting this existing wetland at risk. Furthermore it is absurd to allow more pollution and sediment to be sent to Te Waihora while investment and work is underway in the very long and expensive process to remediate this body of water.
3. The scale of the mine is inappropriate for a small valley. Noise, dust, truck traffic and road damage are excessive for the area. We drove through this road last year and I was disconcerted to see how damaged the road was. I know this area from before Bathurst was involved in this mine and the road was in much better condition then. This suggests a lack of respect for their neighbours and their quality of life
4. Climate crisis. ECan has declared a climate emergency so action must follow. It is impossible to reconcile the granting of this consent with the declaration of a climate emergency. To bring emission levels down we simply must stop mining and burning coal, particularly low grade coal like that at Coalgate. There are better energy options and we must stop this process of subsidising dirty energy through environmental damage. It is a double-whammy of environmental damage in that the coal will largely be used to prop up environmentally unsustainable dairy farming on the Canterbury plains. Institutions such as Canterbury University are finally making the move out of coal-fired heating; dairy companies should be doing the same. Local government should not allow local environmental damage to be a means of supporting other environmentally damaging industries.
5. Future proofing employment. The economy's need is for jobs that can respond to the climate crisis. Investment should be in education and training for work for the future, not propping up jobs that effectively belong in the era of the industrial revolution. The jobs provided by this mine are not economically sustainable long term because the industry is not environmentally sustainable. An extension to the permit for this mine is a disservice

to our future workers with the environment paying the cost to continue this unsustainable work.

In conclusion, I ask that Bathurst's application be declined and additionally that they be compelled to meet the conditions of their existing consent and face meaningful consequences if they continue to flout these regulations.

Caroline Syddall