

From:
To: [Hearings](#)
Cc: [Edwina White](#)
Subject: Notifications Consent Submission: Group 542
Date: Sunday, 17 May 2020 4:45:24 PM

Group ID: 542

Consent name: Bathurst Coal Limited

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

Name: Breanna Ward

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:

The resource consents for the Bathurst coal mine should not be approved because it would

result in operations that continue to destroy the habitat of our critically endangered mudfish. Bathurst has repeatedly breached their consent agreements by causing sediment to run into waterways. After an infringement in 2017, Environment Canterbury stated that “If the company fails to comply again, we won’t hesitate to escalate our enforcement response if necessary - our waterways must be protected.” Despite this, the breaches have continued, with 27 infringements recorded on Environment Canterbury's website and the latest one being in 2019. It is hugely likely Bathurst will continue to breach their consent conditions if they are allowed to go ahead. The coal being produced is low-grade coal which can be easily replaced with renewable energy. In our current ecological and climate crisis, it is unacceptable to grant consent allowing the continuation of fossil fuels emissions when there are clean alternatives. Environment Canterbury is aware of this urgency, as shown by the 2019 declaration of a climate and ecological emergency. The extensions to Bathurst Coal would go against this declaration, as the coal mine negatively impacts both the climate and biodiversity. This low-grade coal is mostly going towards dairy farms who use coal burners to create milk powder. This process is one of New Zealand's biggest fossil fuel emissions. Fonterra and Synlait have both committed to not buying any more new coal burners. Fonterra has even committed to phasing out coal burners. Allowing Bathurst Coal to extend its operations, therefore, doesn't align with these goals. Additionally, their operations will have a more than minor impact on the local community and biodiversity. Smoke, dust, noise and pollution all will negatively impact on the surroundings. Finally, the RMA (Resource Management Act) doesn't currently include climate impacts as grounds for denying consent. But this is under review. If the RMA changes to include climate impacts, then it gives further legal reasoning that this consent should not be granted. Overall, Environment Canterbury has responsibilities as representatives of our region. Last year over 9000 people went on strike for the climate in Christchurch. There is a growing awareness and understanding in Christchurch that we must not allow business as usual to continue. Environment Canterbury should act in the best interests of the community, the environment and future generations - rather than acting in the best interest of an industry that will comparatively benefit very few people and damage our environment.

Consent comment:
(nothing entered)