

From:
To: hearings@ecan.govt.nz
Cc: [Edwina White](#)
Subject: Notifications Consent Submission: Group 542
Date: Saturday, 16 May 2020 5:16:39 PM

Group ID: 542

Consent name: Bathurst Coal Limited

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

Name: Gerald Parsonson

Care of: Parsonson Architects Ltd

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 | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC200500: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC201366: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC201367: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC201368: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- CRC203016: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing
- RC185622: oppose | NOT to be heard | will NOT consider joint hearing

Reasons comment:

This expansion and the resulting carbon emissions pose an unacceptable risk to our climate

and our future. The science is clear, mining and combustion of fossil fuels like coal are major contributors to global carbon emissions. Serious efforts to keep climate change to under 1.5 degrees acknowledge not only the need to no longer open new fossil fuel projects but also to keep known fossil fuel reserves in the ground. As Environment Canterbury has itself acknowledged in its 2019 Declaration of a Climate Emergency, the science on climate change is “irrefutable” and there is an “urgent need to address climate change for the benefit of current and future generations.” Granting consents that allow the expansion of this coal mine directly contradicts this need and the intent of the Council’s own declaration. Not enabling companies like Bathurst Resources Limited to extend the life of mines like the Canterbury Coal Mine is incredibly important environmentally. This is particularly pertinent given that Bathurst Resources Limited have no publicly available climate change policy or plan to reduce carbon emissions in line with the government’s goal of net-zero emissions by 2050. All the scientific evidence says we need to stop burning fossil fuels. Unlike the leaders in the USA we must rely on evidence and listen to the scientists, be in line with the declared ‘Climate Emergency’ and turn the ship around. Committing to these carbon emissions now will lock in continuing negative effects into the future. We understand that most of the coal mined by Bathurst Resources Limited is being used by local dairy companies, Fonterra and Synlait, whose operations have historically depended on coal-fired boilers to process milk. Both companies have recently committed to build no new coal-fired boilers, with Fonterra also announcing a phase-out of all coal power to dry milk. With these major customers moving to reduce the amount of coal they consume in response to climate change, it seems counterintuitive ‘at many levels’ that these consents be granted at a time when fossil fuel operations should be scaling back rather than expanding. While potential climate impacts currently do not constitute sufficient grounds to deny an application under the Resource Management Act (RMA), we wish to point out that this is currently subject to review and may soon be revised in line with the commitments made by the central government under the Climate Change Response (Zero-Carbon) Amendment Act 2019. Addressing climate change should not only be the responsibility of the central government – all levels of government must be recognise the risks to our climate when making decisions which will set us on a certain course for decades to come. We urge those reviewing Bathurst Resources Limited’s application to be proactive in considering the potential climate impacts of expanding this mine and their responsibility

Consent comment:

Decline this application.