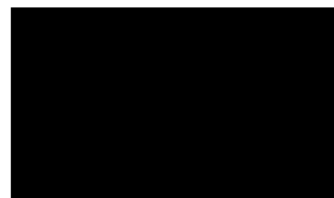


RECEIVED 8 JULY 2015

Keir Delaney,  
Secretary Environment & Planning  
Committee Parliament House,  
Spring Street,  
Melbourne VIC 3002



3<sup>rd</sup> July 2015

Dear minister

Re: Mantle Mining, Exploration Licence EL5428

I write to you strongly objecting to the issuing of this exploration licence to Mantle Mining. From the information given in the media I understand that they seek to prospect coal in and around Mirboo North. The region that Mantle Mining wish to purge for coal is an agricultural region and I understand (from Government reports) that this is in an area which comprises only 3% of the arable land in Australia but produces 26% of the food resources for the country. From this it is clear that the value of the land is great and we should all be looking after the land and keeping our water supplies pure. It is very clear to me that an area which produces such high quality and quality of food should not in any way be compromised.

Mirboo North is a community which is located geographically close to the Latrobe Valley and we see first-hand the effects on adjacent land to the mines and do not want our patch of beauty destroyed by any similar mining attempts.

The only people that I can see that would benefit from this going ahead are Mantle Mining investors, and only until they have stripped bare the wonder of this amazing area of the Strzelecki Ranges. Many more people would lose their lifestyle, their income, families would be separated and properties that have been in families for generations lost. There is no positive reasoning why the lifestyle of the community, beauty of the region and the food resources of Australia suffer because a minority wish to make some money!

The proposal is not a resource of our planet for the future, we already have existing coal mines.

I plead with you please do not allow this beautiful area which I and my family call home be mined.

If you really seek to represent the people of Victoria (not just those wanting to line their pockets) please understand and comprehend that we do not want mining in the region. Our community is against mining and surveys conducted outside of this area in relation to our area are simply unfair and inaccurate.

Yours sincerely

Rachel Wilson

