



25/3/17

Executive Director, Mineral Resources Division

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Department of State Development,  
Level 7, 101 Grenfell Street  
ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Mining Act Review,

RE: Mining and Agriculture

Ultimately, the current situation is not working for farmers. I seriously fear there are several suicides on the cards over Mining disputes.

We have a situation where **Corporate** Mining is trying to communicate and negotiate with **Family Farms**. The 2 business models could not be father apart. Farming decisions are governed by the season and the weather. Mining is hot and cold depending on the world markets.

I am not 'anti mining', but the reports I hear from fellow farmers mean the current consultation process and system is totally unacceptable. Once a farmers land is targeted by mining, they are effectively 'black listed'. I've even had reports of Banks becoming difficult when finance is being sought.

#### **Agriculture Advocate for Mining**

What we need is an Agriculture advocate specifically for Mining interactions. I need someone I can immediately call when mining come knocking. We already run a farm and all that goes with that role; it's a full time job. We don't have time to now learn about Mining Regulations when we are already juggling a thousand other Regulations such and Chemical, Transport, WHS, Industrial Relations.....the list goes on!

#### **Mining Representatives**

I don't appreciate Mining companies 'using' ex-farmers as their local mediator. It's insulting and a form of **passive intimidation** in my opinion. It's great for a mediator to have an Ag background and some knowledge & understanding but it should never be a person from that community concerned. It makes some farmers very uncomfortable and they feel pressured by their community/family affiliations with the Mining mediator. It's sneaky tactics.

