



Executive Director,
Mineral Resources Division
Department of State Development
Level 7, 101 Grenfell St
Adelaide SA 5001

23rd February 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing in regards to the mining act review, there are certain aspects of the review that cause me concern.

I have family that are farmers but I myself are not. I have seen the land degradation and the community impact mining can cause. I believe that if mining is allowed on farming land, that land and the land surrounding the mine will never be the same, ever. Please remove section 9AA of the mining act which effectively removes the farmer's rights by allowing the much larger mining companies to take the farmer to court to grant access to the farmers land.

So, my concerns are that the farmer should always have the right to refuse soil sampling, drilling and mining on their land regardless of the short term or long term commercial implications.

I believe the review should be done by an independent commission or person, because no one trusts the Government anymore and self regulation does not work.

I do not think that the proposed review to the mining act has been very well advertised in the community, therefore not giving anyone chance to make a submission or to seek further information. There have been no information meetings in my area, or if they were they were not advertised at all so that I could attend. The consultation period should be longer to give everyone a chance to collate information and make a submission.

If a short term mine is to go ahead (5-15 years), when the mine closes the mined land should be returned to as near as possible to the original condition so that land is not ruined for all time. The short term financial gain is not worth ruining the land forever, when the land is already agriculturally productive.

So what I am asking for in my submission is more rights to the farmer and an independent review and more time for discussion on the review before it takes place.

Yours sincerely

(Dictated but not signed by Mrs E Valmai Smith, due to time constraints, a signed letter will be sent by post. Please send all correspondence to the address below.)

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