

Executive Director  
Mineral Resources Division  
Department of State Development  
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Adelaide SA 2001  
Email:DSD.miningactreview@sa.gov.au

February 24<sup>th</sup> 2017

Dear Sir /Madam,

I am writing in regards the proposed changes to the mining legislation and in particular several points that I have that concern me and my family.

My first and one of my major concerns is that the review is not being done by an independent body. This needs to be completely separate from the government so that it is an independent review not a review that may be called into question after completion by either concerned parties. As the Department doing the review is the same as the one that issues the mining licences must be of some concern to everyone that it is not independent.

I am also of the belief that there has not been enough time frame for this review and consultation period and it has been started in one of the busiest periods of the year making meetings and writing of submissions very difficult for some of the people involved. Even though the time frame for written submissions has been extended this is still a restricted period in which to complete a submission and gather all information needed. The time frame for the submissions and the review may not have been placed at this time of year on purpose but needs to be extended to allow every party enough time for more community and private input. For an example the meetings organised by the Department of State Development in regards to the mining act review was not advertised in the local paper or in any other format. The short time frame from announcing these meetings and having the actual meetings was grossly inadequate, Ceduna half a day, Mailland 4 days. The people involved cannot change plans at such short notice.

**" Land access is our number one, two and three priority" This is a direct quote from the Deputy Chief Executive of the Department of State Development in the Advertiser 10/5/2014**

Perhaps this direct quote should be the reason that the review be independent and that the Dual role of the Mineral section of the Department of State Development be separated.

I believe that the Farmers of South Australia have been de-valued by the Government and that the right to farm the land and produce clean green produce for the export and domestic markets removed. I think that mining on Farming land is not only wrong on many fronts but dangerous to the local and wider economy. I believe the right of the farmer should be upheld and that if he, she or they do not want mining or any type of exploration on their property this right should be upheld. Section 9AA of the mining act must be removed as it overrides the exemption given to farming land from exploration and mining by allowing mining companies to take the farmers to court to get exploration and mining rights. Farmers should have the right to farm the land that has been cared for by their families for generations and protect it for future generations.

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I have had the dubious pleasure of a mining company representative contact my husband and myself with the request to do soil samples on our property. We were given all of the information that it was considered we needed and allowed to think on the matter. We were then contacted again after a short period of time to get our permission and we requested more time to discuss the matter. The next contact was via the phone at which time I told the representative that we had decided that we did not wish to have any soil testing done on our property. I was then threatened by this person that "his bosses would take us to court and get permission anyway" so we may as well sign the forms. I once again repeated that we were not going to sign the forms and if his bosses wanted to take us to court, we would see him there. He then repeated the threat of legal action and I told him "you do what you have to do, and I will do what I have to do" and then terminated the call. We have never heard from the representative or the mining company again.

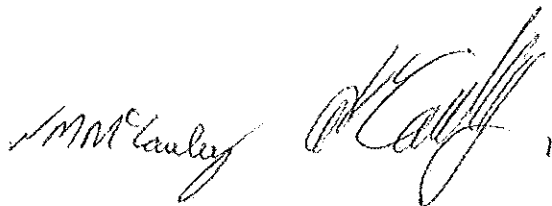
I think that the concerns the community and property owners have in regards to having a mine in their area have not been taken seriously or addressed properly. It is as if the concerns that many have about mining are not actually of any consequence and can be partially or completely overlooked. This needs to be addressed properly in consultation with the community and parties involved to get a reasonable outcome. This should also include appropriate penalties for any breach of the agreement made.

It is very poor business practices to allow the extensions that have been given to Rex mining in regards to their Hillside Mine project. With the original timeframes for the mine not met by the company an extension was given, prolonging the distress and uncertainty of the locals and property holders near the proposed mine site. Why have the time limits if they are not adhered to or an appropriate penalty imposed?

We, my family and I, have major concerns about mining on prime agricultural land. These concerns are major to us and leave us with an uncertainty that will not go away. Mr Koutsantonis suggests that the money received for mining on your property be used to purchase another property to continue farming but as large areas of SA are covered by mining lease; their position will be no different. We have spent years taking care of the land we farm so of course we are going to fight for its future.

I hope you take all our concerns into consideration as you would those of a large corporation after all in these submissions everyone should be equal.

Yours faithfully



Cherelyn & Nick McCauley

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