

Proposed Croftby Open-Cut Coal Mine

What's proposed?

The intention of Allegiance Coal is to create an Open-Cut Coal Mine at Croftby producing some 300,000 tonnes per annum over a 15 year period.

- Mineral Development Licence (MDL) 138 - held indirectly by Allegiance Coal - is a rectangular tenure of 244.6Ha sitting at approx. 45 degrees NE and extending along Carneys Creek Road from Sawatski Road to just beyond Stenzel Road, with the eastern boundary corner adjacent to the Boonah-Rathdowney Road.
- Allegiance Coal have advised that they could start access negotiations with Landholders - to undertake further drilling to prove the extent of the resource - as early as October this year. If financially viable they will then proceed with the requirements for an application for a Mining Lease.

What are the likely impacts on the community?

The Scenic Rim Community Plan which makes it clear that we “want a strong economy based upon rural and tourism industries and the Scenic Rim’s highly valued lifestyle and landscape”. The plan prioritises protection of agricultural land from fragmentation and development and categorically states that “stopping activities such as coal mines and coal seam gas extraction that irreversibly damage our natural environment” are a priority.

- **Roads** - Allegiance Coal have indicated that the Coal will be transported by road to a train loading facility at Bromelton, meaning the Coal trucks will pass through Boonah.
- **Health and wellbeing** – Many people in the community are concerned about the serious health risks posed by coal dust – both in the air and getting into tank water and waterways.
- **Tourism** - Allegiance Coal have advised that a void will be left where the Coal and other materials are extracted, creating an ugly visual sore on two of our key tourism routes. This combined with Coal truck traffic may well have a significant negative impact on the financial viability of our tourism operators.
- **Agriculture** – Much of the land within MDL138 has been farmed by the same families since this land was first selected. Today, this area is still recognised as one of the most fertile valleys in Australia
- **Waterways** - Flagstone Creek and Sandy Creek run through the proposed Mine site, and these Creeks overflow into Teviot Brook which is the main feed into Wyaralong Dam. Community concerns include the potential of the Mine to pollute the waterways and Dam, as well as disrupt availability of ‘close-to-surface’, good quality underground water.
- **Employment** – Whilst the Mine may create some 30 specialised machinery operator jobs, the negative impact on our tourism industry would likely see job losses far in excess of that small increase.
- **Local heritage and flora and fauna** - The proposed Coal Mine is right across the road from the National Heritage listed Minto Crags. And the adjacent Minto Swamp is listed as an Endangered Regional Ecosystem and supports a large and diverse bird population. During a recent survey, a significant number of Veteran trees - ranging in age from 150–250 - years were identified within the MDL, and these provide resilient and critical habitat for many native animals.

What you can do

The Croftby community group recently wrote to the Premier, calling on him to enact his election promise to protect the entire Scenic Rim from Coal Mining and CSG extraction through changes to the relevant Legislation.

- We encourage you to urgently Email the Premier at thepremier@premiers.qld.gov.au outlining why you and your family or business don't want to see Coal Mining and CSG extraction in the Scenic Rim.
- Stay informed. Subscribe to regular email updates by emailing kerryn@skymesh.com.au
- Be prepared to join Landholders at Croftby in peaceful ‘lock the gate’ protests when Allegiance Coal approaches them regarding access for further drilling.