

GAS WATCH 210.

Mining industry hits new low: Major official ad campaign based on lies and politics.

A little known group called “World Class Miners” has co-opted an even lesser known grape grower in the Hunter Valley in a failed attempt to show that grape growing and coal mining can co-exist.

A major official advertising blitz in all media, including major national press, social media and more, has clearly been timed to coincide with the hearing of the appeal by Rio Tinto against the decision of the Land & Environment Court to save the town of Bulga from destruction by open cut mine extensions.

The advertising blitz – no doubt costing tens if not hundreds of thousands of dollars - is peppered with lies and omissions and highlights the desperate measures being undertaken by the Mining Industry in its fight against the community.

We have written to Glencore demanding that the lies in their advertising campaign be withdrawn.

The Beyond Broke vineyard near Bulga is within a Mining Lease area and has been undermined by Glencore Xstrata.

What the current advertisements fail to say is that when it was undermined by Xstrata, the Kennedy house suffered significant damage and took over a year to fix; that part of the vineyard which sank over the long wall coal mining lost yield; and the massive holding dam for irrigation water had its back broken and had to be lined at great cost. Goodness knows what will happen to the house, vineyard and dam when they undermine them again in a few year time.

Add to this the dust from nearby open cut mines often exceeding levels dangerous to the health of humans and animals; significant noise day and night; poisonous plumes from blasting; light pollution; cumulative detrimental environmental effects from a number of mines; continuous truck and train movements; uncovered coal waggons on train lines; and you have an environmental disaster in that very vineyard area happening right now.

Fortunately the Bulga citizens are confident that the Supreme Court won't be swayed by this intense, underhanded, blatantly biased advertising campaign and will uphold the findings of the Land and Environment Court.

Just another example of the bullying tactics of the mining industry.



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