

GAS WATCH 211.

Xstrata hides behind the Minerals Council's false, deceptive and misleading advertising.

Xstrata admits that not all mining/agriculture relationships work.

Withdraw merely the headline of the current official advertising Blitz where it is claimed that Xstrata's Bulga Underground coal mine is "now producing wine" we asked Glencore Xstrata.

The headline is, of course, a lie. The mine is producing coal. The vineyard above the mine is producing grapes.

The headline of this political advertisement is both false, deceptive and misleading – we told Xstrata.

We asked for confirmation that it wouldn't be used again.

Xstrata responded to say that they had a good working relationship with one specific neighbouring vineyard owner, but "There is no suggestion that these experiences reflect all relationships between mining and other land users".

The NSW Minerals Council is presently advertising a claimed good working relationship between Glencore Xstrata's Bulga mine and one specific neighbouring grapegrower.

When pressed to forget the politics and withdraw the false headline Xstrata said that we should direct our enquiries to the NSW Minerals Council.

Trouble is that there is no-one to really complain to about truth in political advertising. ACCC doesn't really want to know about it; The Advertising Standards Board doesn't want to know about it.

They suggest we bring it up with the advertiser. Failed there. They suggest we then bring it up with our local member, George Souris, to see if he can do anything, but it does appear that the public just has to cop lies in political advertising and, without the money to counter-advertise we are just hung out to dry by the mining companies and the NSW Minerals Council.



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