

Fri 3/06/2022 2:41 PM

hugo figgis [REDACTED]

NSW Clean Air Consultation – Submission

Hi,

I live in Bulli, NSW. And work in Wollongong, at an industrial worksite that is unfortunately located next to the Port Kembla Coal Terminal. I am concerned about my health from Coal Dust in the air. I understand the air surrounding the Coal Terminal is monitored. However I do not believe the Air Quality standards are set in the best interest of the Health of the NSW population. I recall the ABC show Catalyst did an episode on the risks of Coal Dust along Coal mining areas, and transport corridors for Coal - and it was well represented that the NSW standards are far too slack to drive any real control of PM 2.5 micron & less - and it's hidden impact on the surrounding populations.

This is also a hidden issues along the north & south Train line in which I live very close to - with Coal Trains commuting many times per day. Coal Dust was shown to impact the air quality adversely after each open top Coal train drives past. I am concerned for my children also, who live in the area. My daughter has asthma - which I suspect has the local Air Pollution being a significant contributing factor - Of course this is impossible to prove - however, using the Precautionary Principle & knowing the effect of Coal Dust in the area, I call for the NSW government to set Air Quality standards that safeguard the health of the population - and not the longevity of Coal Mining.

Please remove ALL exemptions for Air Pollutions Limits to industry & Coal burning Power Stations by 2025. This would give ample time to phase out the dependence of the polluting industry to seek exemptions instead of preventing the air Pollution in the first place.

I also ask the Government should adopt the World Health Organisations guidelines values for Air Quality. To avoid these WHO standards suggests the Government is setting guidelines based on industry lobbying, and not in the true interest of the Health of its people.

Having stronger Air Pollution limits will also encourage take up of better Vehicle emission levels. This would improve health of the entire population. And more specifically, this would improve health of children located in schools alongside busy main roads, like my Daughter school ([REDACTED]). Long term Health benefits are hard to quantify, but should be added to the balance sheet of economics to argue against supporting Industry economies that cost NSW state funds when they detrimentally effect Public Health.

Please bring limits down to better represent the people of NSW.

Regards,

Hugo Figgis
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