



Fw: Enquiry from website

info to: [REDACTED]
Sent by: info@hazelwoodinquiry.vic.gov.au

14/05/2014 02:08 PM

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[REDACTED]
13/05/2014 04:52 PM

To Hazelwood Inquiry
info/DPC@DTF
cc
bcc
Subject Enquiry from website

Dear Board of Inquiry,

I do apologise that this is a late submission. However, I had been informed that the deadline was for submissions by Friday May 16.

Just today, I was informed that submissions were to be in by yesterday, so I do dearly hope that you will accept my submission because I feel so passionate about this situation.

I also am over 50% Disabled with an Acquired Brain Injury and do not use the Internet very well at all. Again, I ask for you to forgive my foibles, and please accept my submission.

I am writing this submission to request that your investigation take account of the following please.

1. Health Effects: The Health effects of the fire need to be fully understood, and the inquiry should recommend a separate public inquiry into the long-term health effects on the affected population.
2. Fire policy: If the fire prevention policy was adequate, then the fire should not have taken hold. Media reports have suggested that the fire-fighting pipes and sprinklers had been removed, which is alarming if true. Regardless an adequate policy would have prevented the coal from being on to the air and a fire would have been prevented.
3. Origins of fire: I was shocked to learn that there are small fires in the mine that have been burning for years. The Inquiry should investigate the source of the fire, and the contributing role these "hot-spots" in the mine might have made to the outbreak of the mine fire.
4. Rehabilitation bond: Rehabilitation means the mine site should be left clean and safe. I am concerned that the very small rehabilitation bond for the Hazelwood mine will mean GDF Suez is less likely to properly rehabilitate the site, leaving a burden of possibly hundreds of millions of dollars to Victoria taxpayers. This is another example of privatising profit and making the public assume risk.
5. Quality of rehabilitation: Hazelwood's mining licence requires them to do "progressive rehabilitation" of the mine. I am concerned that the coal in an area that should have been rehabilitated as it hadn't been mined for decades was still able to catch on fire. It suggests that existing rehabilitation requirements were inadequate or not enforced. The EPA has previously come to the attention of the Auditor General for breaches in its duties to the community I know this having been to one of its damage control sessions. The best resolution is prevention and independent resourced scrutiny. The industry instead seems able to side step

responsibility. How can this be allowed to occur in a civilised society?

6. Enforceable timelines: I think the Hazelwood Work Plan should have enforceable timelines for rehabilitation, to ensure disused parts of the mine are rehabilitated and made safe as quickly as possible.

7. Public findings: Given that this inquiry is investigating the causes of a major public health disaster, I feel it is important that the inquiry's findings be made public very shortly after the completion of your report.

I acknowledge that my submission will be treated as a public document and may be published, quoted or summarised by the inquiry.

Yours sincerely,

Alicia Liley

North Fitzroy 3068