



Residents for Responsible Mining
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MEDIA RELEASE : 20 August 2010

CHITTERING RESIDENTS REJECT BRL'S "VISION" FOR THE COMMUNITY

Residents from the Chittering based action group Residents for Responsible Mining (R4RM) have confirmed that Bauxite Resources Limited's (BRL) (ASX:BAU) latest proposal to mine bauxite and gravel from farmland north of Bindoon is a major threat to established farming and tourism ventures, the environment and residential amenity.

"We see this 2mtpa bauxite and gravel proposal as the act of a desperate company. The bauxite deposits on and around Bindoon Hill were defined decades ago and are known to be uneconomic and unmineable due to social and environmental impacts and transport issues. BRL persists with a plan for large scale mining in a location of outstanding beauty which hosts a patchwork of small and medium sized producing farms" said R4RM co-convenor, Clair Medhurst.

"A large number of farmers and rural residents live in Chittering because of the priority given to agriculture, the peace and beauty of the place and because the Chittering Town Planning Scheme protects the land from mining." Ms Medhurst said, "Those residents who will be directly affected by mining, and many others, do not want their rights under the Town Planning Scheme overturned in favour of large scale, low margin strip mining which will degrade the environment, devalue agricultural and tourism investment and industrialise the region".

One of WA's leading bauxite experts, Ron Renton, has described the latest BRL "vision" for the community as "one of the most incoherent and uncohesive I have ever seen". He also dismissed BRL's claim that bauxite is "high quality gravel" as "technically incorrect" and confirmed that a raw bauxite export business from these deposits was irresponsible and could not be profitable.

Ms Medhurst said "BRL points to pasture in a paddock where it conducted its Stage 1 trial using its "minimal impact mining" slogan as if this proves something. I think we can safely ignore Mr Carbon's unsubstantiated opinions about how beneficial mining is for agricultural security". In fact, an aerial photo (attached) taken on 15th August shows that the replanted Stage 1 pasture is not growing as well as the unmined pastures nearby and the 2 'preserved' mature trees are looking rather sick. (But not as sick as the 8 or so enormous 100+ year old Marri trees which have been bulldozed and removed from the site).

"The company remains in complete denial about the appalling impacts from dust and noise pollution and the unsustainable trucking volumes which residents



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experienced on Shire roads during the Stage 1 trial mining operation – it's as though they didn't happen" Ms Medhurst said. "BRL has been trying to whip up expectations about mining in our community for a year now but few people, other than those who would benefit, are convinced there would be any net gain for the community, and most people just don't trust what BRL says. BRL seems to think the people of Chittering can be "bought" but they are smarter than that and can see that this is a scheme that will benefit very few people and will degrade Chittering."

BRL trial mining site north Bindoon showing poor pasture growth



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