

From:
To: [Community Affairs Committee \(SEN\)](#)
Subject: submission for inquiry
Date: Friday, 8 March 2013 6:14:46 PM

This letter is concerning the air quality inquiry

We lived in the Hunter Valley and Dairy farm in the Jerrys Plains area.

We have five children and our youngest 3 have asthma.

Our third daughter [REDACTED] has it the worst and we believe that it has to do with the environment around us as we have lived and farmed our family farm way before the children were born.

IN 1997 was the start of the industry boom in our area and this is when we noticed our daughter being ill and being diagnosed as having Asthma six months after she was born in September.

I believe with the increase in mining and power generation this is affecting our children's lives every day as our first two daughters don't have these issues.

Our lives have not changed we still milk cows live in the same house for the last 20 years. It has been our environment that has changed in a big way.

We have done many runs into the local hospital which is a 45 minute drive into Singleton and [REDACTED] has been hospitalized many times. We found as she got older her asthma although she was on an asthma action plan didn't always help.

Seeing specialist every month going for allergy test and doctor's appointments we found that once she got a cold she would end up with bronchitis and pneumonia and into hospital.

With all that [REDACTED] has had to deal with and doctors saying she will grow out of it this it has not been possible as the last two years [REDACTED] has had to cope with pleurodynia (fluid around the lungs) and the amount of school time lost has not help in any way.

The dust and particles, pollens and other sources certainly have not help and we have mining getting closer to our home.

Being constantly told to move because of her health doesn't help as it is impossible, all her life she has constantly asked why can't she be like every one else, not being sick constant days off and doctors/hospital visits. There have been times when we have had to carry her into the hospital because of the attacks.

I wish I could put a stop to her constant illness and the heart break that goes with this is unbearable.

Our other two children are aware they have asthma and seem to be able to manage it better than [REDACTED] as hers seems to be much more severe.

The blasting affects [REDACTED] and here again is more days of school. In the last two months she has had ear infections and bad sinus infections twice the matter is actually getting worse.

I have heard many others that have these issues but for us we just cannot get up and move as easily although she is better when not in the valley at all.

ON many occasions being away from where we live is much more healthier for her.

I believe that when there are blasts and dust arising from these industries that it is not good for her we didn't ask for this to happen and these industries just seemed to have grown so rapidly that our children's lives are being put at risk. Will they have a long life expectancy?

I AM A VERY CONCERNED MUM WONDERING WHAT WILL BE LEFT FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS.

Yours