

5 March 2013

Committee Secretary
Senate Standing Committees on Community Affairs
PO Box 6100
Parliament House
Canberra ACT 2600

Dear Senate Committee on Health Impacts from Air Quality,

I have lived in Elizabeth Street Tighes Hill since 2006, when of course I knew that the Carrington coal loader was in close proximity to my home. I frequently hear and smell the trains on the Ferndale Street line, and also all the loading activities directly north of my home. This is especially prevalent during the summer months, with prevailing north-easterlies. It was not something I considered a hazard to my family.

However, I have begun to be quite concerned after all, as I am exposing my children, now nine and twelve years old, to this during their entire childhoods, and the volume of this pollution has increased a great deal.

1. Specifically, one winter morning in 2010 when my children had drawn on the condensation and I went to clean the *inside* of a window, it was coal dust on the cloth, not household dust. This was a shock, as I was accustomed to seeing it on the outside of the building.
2. In the coal-loader facing garden, ie north, I have a pot on the end of a chain to catch rainwater for garden watering. In years gone by, the water would gather a bit of green and the odd mosquito. Now, the scoop floating in the pot is lined with extremely fine coal dust *all the time*.
3. The house was a pale yellow colour, which I chose to paint a dark blue during our renovations last year, so that the black dust would not show so much on the entire exterior. I now weekly clean fine black dust off white sills and louvre windows.

I have worked in community consultation and understand that the true difficulties commence when the feedback period is closed (!), but I do hope that you see fit to encourage:

- 1) the covering of all rail wagons on their way through residential areas and
- 2) an improved air quality monitoring system with measurement stations relevant to our residential suburbs.

Sincerely,

Anna Kasper