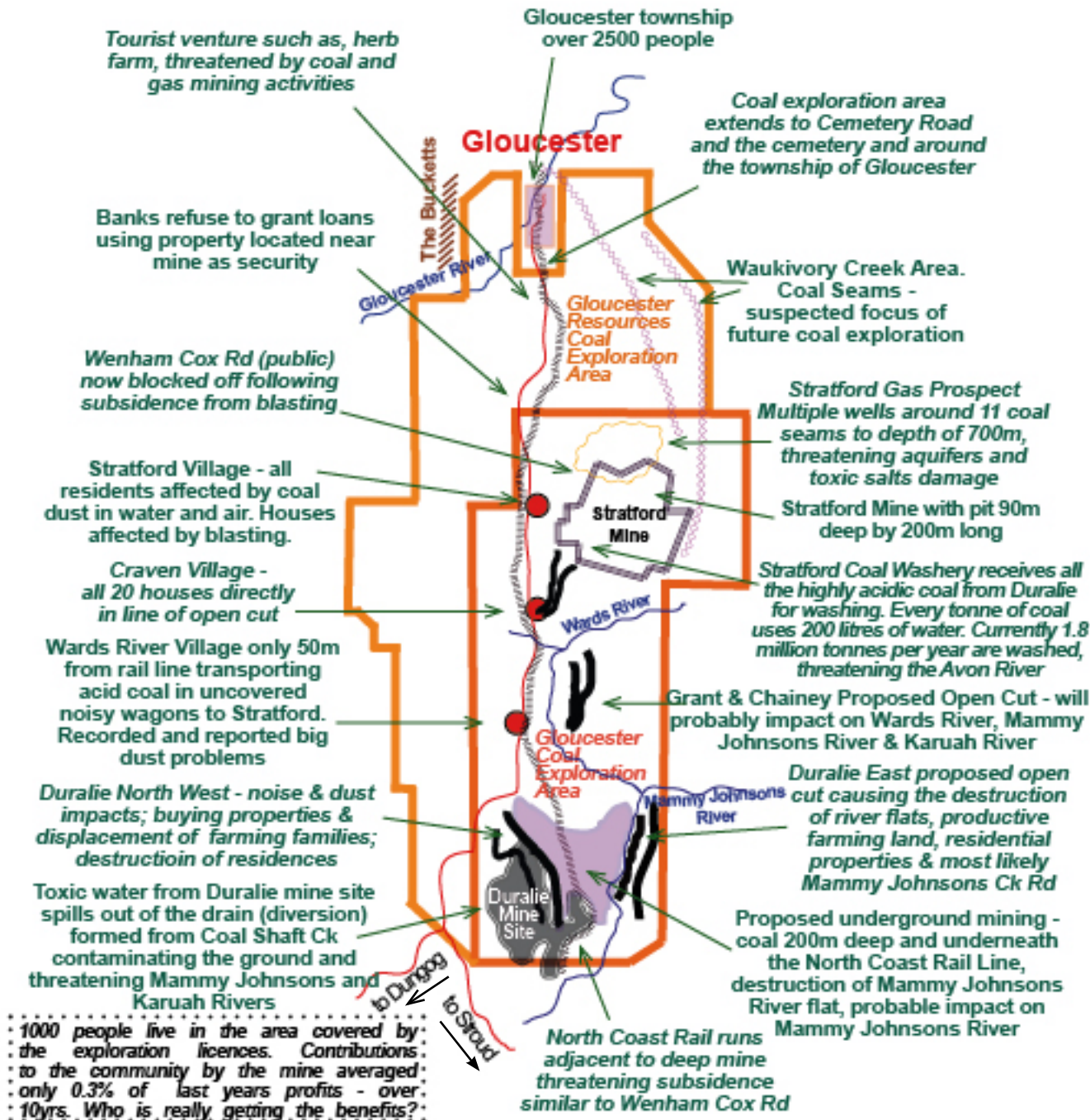


Food and Water NOT COAL



Barrington-Gloucester-Stroud Preservation Alliance
Fighting to Preserve the Community



Gloucester 2006

We need to protect every drop of water and every bit of productive land.

In NSW, about 40 river systems have completely disappeared or become contaminated by coal mining activities and practices. Hundreds of thousands of hectares of food producing land have been lost forever. Just look over the hill to Singleton and Muswellbrook to see the irreversible destruction.



Singleton 2006

Pure, fresh water and productive farming land are our greatest natural resources. At a time when "climate change is perhaps the most challenging collective action problem the world has faced" THE WEATHER MAKERS TIM FLANNERY, your irreplaceable resources are being sold to greedy corporate invaders. The water flowing through the Gloucester Basin is one of the largest sources of pure, fresh water in the mid

north and central coast. Global warming is this planet's most urgent problem. The increased temperatures are causing loss of soil moisture with decreased farm production, increased fire risk and more severe storms. The burning of coal is an important contributor to these problems and the wider world picture of rising sealevels with the imminent displacement of many millions of people. It is immoral to deliberately speed up this process.

The proposed takeover of Gloucester Coal by Xstrata signals a potential disaster for the Gloucester region and all communities dependent on our water and food producing capabilities. Xstrata is the world's largest exporter of thermal coal. The Group's operations and projects span 18 countries. Their mission statement "we will grow and manage a diversified portfolio of metals

and mining businesses **with the single aim of delivering industry-leading returns for our shareholders**" makes it clear that they are not interested in preserving local interests. *Xstrata does not invest in small operations.*

The Gloucester Basin has large deposits of coal. Exploration licences surround the township of Gloucester and south to Stroud (refer to map to see the latest targeted areas). Xstrata is currently fighting to divert the McArthur River in the Northern Territory, with no regard for traditional and other land owners or the environmental consequences. They have substantial investments in Newcastle's recently upgraded coal loaders. Increased coal loading capacity is contributing to mining expansion in our region. Do you want mining to destroy our rivers and beautiful valley, as has happened in other areas?

Can you believe mining companies?

Mining Company Statements

What Really Happened

1994 - It will only be a "small boutique mine." →

1994 - Stratford mine began operations but another mine, Duralie opened near Stroud.

1996 - The mine "will close by 2003" →

2006-2007 - Report to stock exchange declares reserves beyond 2030. Xstrata declares their \$391million takeover for Gloucester will extend the life of their NSW mines.

1994-2006 - Reassurances that the "area between Stratford and Duralie mines will not be mined" →

2007 - Grant & Chainey, and other proposed coal seams to be mined 80-200m depth (see map).

1994-2007 - "Minimal impact" on residents, land rivers, creeks and springs. →

2006 - Subsidence Wenham Cox Rd; Mammy Johnsons River polluted & threatened by overburden and underground mining. Coal Shaft Ck diverted & now a drain. Toxic waste water from tailings in pits & nothing can be done with it. Noise and dust pollution affecting local residents.

2006-2007 - The mine is an "Australian company, benefiting Australians and the local economy" →

2007 - Coal exported to Japan. Takeover by Xstrata, a Swiss based company, with no interest in preserving Gloucester.

2007 - "Business as usual....." →

2007 - Doubling output; more trains; more dust; more noise; Craven township will disappear; diversion of the Bucketts Way; property values decline.....!!!