

Media Release  
Kingaroy Concerned Citizens Group  
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### **Kingaroy Demands Pre-mining Health Tests**

Kingaroy residents concerned about the health impacts from a proposed coal mine near their town are demanding the Queensland Government mandates pre-mining health testing of residents.

A large forum of local residents was informed about the problems of arsenic in coal mines upstream from the town water supply, and the health effects from chemicals in coal dust on people near a mine.

"This is not the future any of us want for Kingaroy," said John Dalton, spokesperson for the Kingaroy Concerned Citizens Group, which organised the forum.

The meeting was an opportunity for concerned residents to get the latest information, and to voice their objection to the proposed coal mine on the southern outskirts of their town ever going ahead.

Mr Dalton said the location is just one of many aspects of the mine that make it completely unsuitable for the area.

"We never want to have to prove health effects from this proposal, but if it goes ahead and becomes necessary, pre-mine health measurements are essential," he said.

"Including this as a part of the EIS and approval process may just ensure that this is the first coal mine known to be rejected on environmental grounds."

The company proposing the open cut mine, Moreton Resources (formerly Cougar Energy) is currently in negotiations with the Queensland Government and State Coordinator General as part of its preparation to lodge a full application for a Mining Lease, which it hopes to begin in 2017.

The Kingaroy Concerned Citizens Group has invited Minister for Natural Resources and Mines, Anthony Lynham to come to Kingaroy to see the irreplaceable farmland where this mine is proposed, and to hear why the usual EIS requirement of measuring background dust levels will be inadequate for this mine. They believe its proximity indicates significant health problems are likely, and broad medical testing of local residents before any mine ever goes ahead is essential.

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