LOCK THE GATE

NO Antimony mining in the Nambucca Valley

a member of the Lock the Gate Alliance

Lock the Nambucca Valley

Protect our valley from antimony mining

lockthenambuccavalley.com.au

A local community group opposing antimony mining in the Nambucca valley

Community Update – Spring 2013

What's the Problem?

In late 2012, Precious Metal Resources (PMR), a Chinese backed company, was issued a two year Exploration Licence (EL 8016) by the NSW Department of Trade and Investment. The licence allows PMR to investigate the economic potential for antimony and gold across 330 square km of the upper catchment of the Nambucca River, including: **Taylors Arm, South Arm, McHughs Creek, North Arm and Buckra Bendinni.** Refer to map on back of this page.

Antimony mining activities in a steep, high rainfall water catchment area have caused long-term and serious heavy metal contamination of stock, human drinking water and 90% of the agricultural floodplains in the Macleay Valley. They have also damaged tourism and other river dependent businesses, dropped property and business values and returns and destroyed lives and livelihoods, with no evidence of local benefit in terms of jobs or investment. According to a 2007 study, reported in the Australian Journal of Earth Sciences, catchment contamination with antimony, arsenic and other toxic heavy metals is likely to remain for "centuries to millennia". The contamination enters the food chain impacting on human and livestock health.

Antimony mining in the headwaters of the Nambucca River threatens to do the same and that's why we don't want it.

All quiet…..for now

PMR has not commenced exploration activities in the Nambucca Valley yet, but could do so at any time. **We must remain vigilant.** PMR has not advised Lock the Nambucca Valley (LNV) of any plans to consult with the local community or when it intends to commence exploration. In fact PMR has not even responded to LNV's January 2013 letter which asked a series of questions pertinent to its exploration licence, landholder consultation and environmental assessment, despite two phone calls seeking a response. PMR is well aware of LNV's existence and growing opposition to antimony mining in the Nambucca but it is unclear whether this has influenced a delay in commencement. Many front gates now display '**Lock the Gate'** signs through the Nambucca Valley, especially within the exploration area. This is the first step to ensuring property rights will be observed when PMR comes knocking.

Some simple steps you can take

- Stay informed visit: www.lockthenambuccavalley.com.au www.lockthemidnorthcoast.com.au
- Join Lock the Nambucca Valley or your local Lock the Gate group.
- Get involved - sign our petitions – make a donation.
- Display a Lock the Gate sign at your front gate.
- Talk to your family and neighbours.
- Advise LNV if you are contacted by PMR seeking access to your property or you know of anyone else who has been.
- Stay vigilant.

Dana Lyons night a ripper - What's next?

LNV's fundraiser starring American folk activist singer songwriter Dana Lyons was a rip roaring success, attracting almost 200 guests and raising $1,200.A big thank you to all raffle prize donors and supporters for helping to make it such a memorable night. Coming up next **a film night at Bowraville Theatre on Friday 22 Nov at 7pm, screening two Australian films 'Undermining Australia' and 'Fractured Country'**. The Theatre Cafe will be open from 6pm. LNV members will be available to answer questions. Lock the Gate signs and other merchandise including our popular t-shirts will be on sale. LNV is also planning to have a stall at the upcoming Inaugural Nambucca River Festival on 30 Nov & 1 Dec.

Merchandise for sale

Lock the Gate triangle signs are available for $5 from:
Bowraville - Technology Centre, Norco & IGA Supermarket
Macksville - Harriet's Gourmet Foods, Cafe Au Lait and Norco
Nambucca Heads – Nambucca Hardware
Valla Beach- Valla Beach Café
Eungai - Eungai Creek Store and Eungai Rail General Store

Also available: LNV bumper stickers $3 or 2 for $5, wrist bands $4 or 3 for $10 and the popular black cotton locally made LNV t-shirts $25. To order email Todd twvercoe@gmail.com

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www.lockthenambuccavalley.com.au

Lock the Nambucca Valley (LNV) meets regularly
check website for date and venue details
www.lockthenambuccavalley.com.au
LNV is a member of the Lock the Gate Alliance

Like us on Facebook
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